

# Francis Marion View

# FMU's Healthy Future

*The new Health Science Complex changes everything.*





## From the President

### Friends,

America's great tradition in liberal arts education is alive and well at Francis Marion. It is a core pedagogical belief, and the foundation of much of what we do academically as a university. And we do it very well.

I mention this because the subject is a topic of some debate today, both inside and outside of higher education. Some difficult questions are being raised: how does the classic liberal arts curriculum, which may not suggest a direct connection to career, fit into that picture? And, if not liberal arts, then what?

Some of our colleagues in academics don't like this conversation and wish it would go away. But here at Francis Marion we embrace it. We seek to broadly educate our graduates, preparing them for the challenges of both work and life.

All this comes to mind as we plan the construction of FMU's new Health Sciences Complex this spring (see story, page 4) and other such buildings as may be built in the future. Many of the health care providers we'll train there – doctors, nurse practitioners and nurse educators, physicians assistants, speech pathologists, physical therapists, clinical psychologists – will have matriculated from our undergraduate programs. And they will transform a region and a state.

But first, they must be transformed themselves.

That begins where all higher education begins – with a firm grounding in the liberal arts and sciences.

**Dr. Fred Carter, President**

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# View

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### On the Cover

Renderings of the exterior of Francis Marion University's new Health Sciences Complex in downtown Florence. Construction on the project is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2015. Renderings courtesy of Balfour Beatty Construction.





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# Building a healthy future

*Francis Marion University's new Health Sciences Complex will transform place, people...and a university.*

BY TUCKER MITCHELL

When Francis Marion University's Performing Arts Center opened in downtown Florence three years ago, it transformed the arts scene in the city and the surrounding region.

Two years from now, when the university's new Health Sciences Complex opens a block and a half away from the PAC, the same sort of transformation is expected to overtake healthcare -- and much more. University and community leaders believe the new building will re-shape everything from Florence's status as a regional healthcare center,

to the ongoing revitalization of the old downtown area, to the pivotal role FMU plays in the life of the community.

South Carolina Senate President Pro Tempore Hugh K. Leatherman, whose work as chair of the Senate Finance Committee paved the way for funding of the facility, called, the HSC "a game changer for Florence, Francis Marion University, and the Pee Dee."

Florence Mayor Stephen J. Wukela says the HSC's impact is so broad that it can be difficult to grasp.

"Whenever I start talking about it, I think I'm moving into hyperbole, but it's really difficult to overstate the

impact it will have. It's going to affect the business, the culture and even the perception of downtown and of the city as a whole. ... It's a big, big deal."

Says FMU President Dr. L. Fred Carter, "The impact is going to be enormous across a number of areas. It will enhance the visibility of the two large healthcare centers (McLeod Health and Carolinas Hospital Systems) as teaching hospitals, it will bring the City of Florence into the business of developing a major healthcare teaching center that will be second to none in this community. ... And of course it's a wonderful





Artist's rendering of Francis Marion University's new Health Sciences Complex. Some minor details depicted may change as the design process is completed. Courtesy of Balfour Beatty Construction.

complement to the university, too.”

Construction plans for the HSC are being finalized. University officials expect work on the building to begin in earnest in the Spring of 2015.

#### OLD AND NEW

The 50,000-square foot building, which will be situated on the southwest corner of Irby and W. Evans Street in the heart of downtown Florence, will be the heart of FMU's rapidly expanding offerings in healthcare education. It is designed to serve an array of programs, both when it opens in the fall of 2016 and in the years and decades that follow.

FMU's graduate-level programs in nursing (Family Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Educator), and psychology will be housed at the HSC along with the new Physician Assistant program. That's a real mix of old and new. The Psychology program dates to the late 1970s and is one of FMU's

foundational fields of study, for which it is rightfully known in the region and the state. But the FNP and Nurse Educator programs are new, having just graduated their first class in December, and the Physician Assistant program won't enroll its first class until the fall of 2016, just as the HSC opens.

That gives some sense of the accelerating pace of FMU's push into the healthcare education field, but even more is in the works. The regulatory process to bring a speech pathology and therapy program to the HSC is already underway, and planning has begun for new programs in physical therapy and healthcare administration.

#### STUDENT APPETITE

The university has long provided high quality programming in the area of healthcare. The tempo picked up in the past decade plus, after FMU launched its own nursing program. FMU nursing piggybacked on the

university's well-respected programs in Psychology, Biology, Pre-Medicine and other sciences. A Health Physics course of study was added several years ago, introducing yet another facet of healthcare to the university's academic offerings.

There's a real appetite for these programs among students. The Department of Nursing, on the heels of graduating its first graduate-level class, is seeing enrollment in the follow-on classes grow, and university officials are already fielding calls from students interested in the Physician Assistant program two years before its scheduled to start.

All of that fits in neatly with Florence's rise as a regional healthcare center, and the burgeoning need for healthcare providers in South Carolina, and especially within the Pee Dee.

Says Dr. Richard Chapman, FMU's Provost, “We're providing programs and careers that are needed





Interior rendering courtesy of Balfour Beatty Construction.

## ***The HSC is 'a big, big deal'***

*Several community leaders who played key roles in bringing the vision for Francis Marion University's new Health Sciences Complex to life shared their thoughts on the project with the VIEW.*

**"Whenever I start talking about (the Health Sciences Complex), I think I'm moving into hyperbole, but it's really difficult to overstate the impact it will have. It's going to affect the business, the culture and even the perception of downtown and of the city as a whole. And that's leaving out the impact it will have for FMU as it continues to grow as an educational institution for this city and community. It's a big, big deal."**

### **Stephen J. Wukela**

*Mayor of Florence*

**"It's the most exciting project to come to Florence and the Pee Dee since I've been around here. Just thinking about all the possibilities, with all those students coming downtown, and all the great minds coming together in one facility from so many great institutions, it's mind boggling really. We've got such great healthcare facilities in this community already, and now this. It's going to change the face of the region for years to come."**

### **Dr. Eddie Floyd**

*Chair, Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation*

**"The Health Science Complex is a game changer for Florence, Francis Marion University, and the Pee Dee. Medical students and instructors will be involved in our community by working in our hospitals, helping to treat our citizens and contributing to the positive growth of FMU and Florence. I am very pleased that we, as a team, have been able to plan for and fund this outstanding facility and program."**

### **Sen. Hugh K. Leatherman**

*President Pro Tempore, S.C. Senate,  
Chair Senate Finance Committee*

in the community and which are attractive to students. We have a great base in liberal arts and sciences, but great professional degrees, especially in the healthcare care field, are going to be increasingly important for a variety of reasons."

Carter says FMU will always be, at its core, a classic liberal arts university – a grounding in a core liberal arts curriculum is basic to every FMU degree, of course – but the natural growth of the institution means expanding into new areas. Healthcare is an obvious avenue for that expansion at FMU.

"There are already a lot of students who, when they think of FMU, will say, 'it has great nursing and health sciences,'" says Carter. "We're glad that's happening, but we expect that to grow dramatically in the years ahead. ... As we continue down the path of a comprehensive university, it's great that students can pursue so many different academic goals. We don't all have to drink from the same well."

Besides the FMU programs, the HSC will also be home to 3rd- and 4th-year medical students from the University of South Carolina's School of Medicine. The USC students will be completing their clinical rotations, a vital part of the med student's instructional life, in Florence at McLeod and Carolinas hospitals. Classroom instruction accompanying the rotations, as well as administrative service for the students, will be headquartered at the HSC.

The USC students based in Florence represent the overflow from the available clinical positions in Columbia. The need for new clinical sites developed when the new Greenville-based medical college opened in 2013. Previously, some USC students did their clinical work in Greenville.

The Florence-based students will be in the Pee Dee by choice, having chosen their location based

on geography, medical specialty, or other interests. Exploratory visits in the fall of 2013 demonstrated strong interest in the concept from the students, many of whom hailed from the region.

No small part of the decision to create a healthcare education center at FMU, and in Florence, was predicated on the desire to bring students to the area. Research shows that students who complete the medical training at a particular location are more likely to remain in that area, at least for the beginning of their career, if not beyond.

That will be true for the USC students, but it will be true for the FMU-trained Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, Psychologists and other specialists in the years ahead as well.

Dr. C. Edward Floyd, chairman of the Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation, one of the HSC's funding partners, and head of the Floyd Medical Group, says the HSC will impact healthcare in the region for years to come because it will bring, and keep, need providers at home.

"That's going to be the job of Francis Marion, of course, to find those men and women," says Floyd. "But I have no doubt that this building, combined with the healthcare facilities we already have in this community, is going to do just that. It will have a profound impact."

### **SIX-YEAR PLAN**

Planning for the HSC, including a long period of consensus building, has been underway for nearly six years, says Carter. Francis Marion University officials, along with their community partners, began discussing the idea in 2009, just at the FMU Performing Arts Center, the university's last big capital project, was coming out of the ground.

FMU's Carter says that considering all that goes into a

project of this scope, it's remarkable that it moved along as quickly as it did.

"Putting together all these programs with all these partners, that's fairly complex," says Carter. "And then there's the funding. It's taken a lot of work. Fortunately, we've had a lot of good people willing to help."

Operations at the HSC will be funded by Medicaid dollars, designed to help bring healthcare providers to the under-served rural areas. South Carolina as a whole is an under-served area, but under-resourced rural areas – most of the Pee Dee falls under that heading – suffer from particularly acute shortages. The Medicaid funding will total \$9 million over five years.

### NO DEBT - AGAIN

To build the HSC, Carter assembled the same coalition that came together to fund the PAC. The Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation, a Florence-based community foundation with strong healthcare ties, is contributing \$7.5 million to the project. The state is contributing \$5 million and the City of Florence is contributing \$3 million. The project is engineered to stay within the \$15.5 million budget, meaning, says Carter, that future health sciences students won't be paying to retire debt in the building where they are being educated.

"As has been the case with all our recent projects," says Carter, "this one will be paid for before we open the doors."

FMU will oversee the basic administration and operation of the building. Individual programs will run their own shows inside, although one of the driving ideas behind the HSC is that the collaborative synergy of the partner programs will be helpful to all. Just what form that will take – classes involving students from more than one program, mentoring, special project partnerships – remains to be seen.

FMU officials haven't named the overall building administrator. Dr. Ruth Wittmann-Price, the chair of FMU's Department of Nursing, will oversee the graduate nursing programs. James "Chip" Hull, the recently named director of the PA program, will handle

those duties. Dr. William "Bill" Hester of McLeod Health will oversee the USC medical students as the assistant dean of medical student education, Florence.

The HSC's 50,000 square feet will be spread across two floors. The building is L-shaped. Its two wings will be connected by a striking, glass-enclosed atrium that will double as an informal lounge area.

The working space will include more than a dozen classrooms, a half dozen labs, an auditorium, offices, informal gathering areas and the building's signature instructional piece, a large simulation lab on the HSC's third floor.

The simulation space will feature technology like what's found in the Sim Lab at FMU's Lee Nursing Building. There, computer-controlled mannequins are programmed to "complain" to student caregivers and exhibit a variety of symptoms. The HSC's sim labs will expand on that model and will include consultation and exam rooms where aspiring healthcare providers can practice their future craft on mannequins, fellow students and even actors trained to display certain symptoms or create certain situations.

The building figures to be busy, with students and instructors from (at least) three programs scurrying from class to class during the instructional day, but because it will be such an elegant structure, in such a prominent place, it will likely serve other roles as well. The landscaped plaza in front of the building could easily become a regular site for university and community events. The existence of the plaza, and the manner in which it "communicates" architecturally with the surrounding buildings and streets, will almost surely transform the Irby-Evans intersection into the centerpiece of Florence's revitalizing downtown.

Architect Thomas Carlson-Reddig of Charlotte-based Little Diversified Architectural Consulting, part of the team of architects involved in the design phase of the project, says the HSC will support the revitalization efforts already underway downtown

by "offering a new gateway to the city at this important intersection. ... It is a building that could only be of Florence."

### JUST THE BEGINNING...

Although it is certainly not the main purpose of the HSC, the building and its programs will also contribute to the rejuvenation underway in downtown Florence. The building's site was selected with that participation in mind. It will serve as both an anchor to the first phase of the downtown revitalization, and as a link to future phases that move further along Evans and Irby.

The presence of university buildings in the area offers both a physical and a psychological boost to the city's efforts, says Wukela.

"When private developers look at that, hear about that, it gives them a confidence that almost nothing else can," Wukela says. "Knowing that an institution like the university is committed makes all the difference in the world."

Francis Marion University, of course, began life more than 50 years ago as the old Florence branch of the University of South Carolina. It was housed, in its early years, in the basement of the old public library, just a few blocks south of the site of the Health Sciences Complex.

Decades later, a downtown campus for the university is becoming a reality again. When the HSC is complete, FMU will have three buildings downtown – the HSC, the Performing Arts Center and the new FMU Recording Studio on Warley Street.

That's three more than many could have imagined just a few short years ago, but it's not, says Carter, the end of the line.

"I think it's fair to say," says Carter, "that this marks the beginning of FMU's presence downtown, not the end." 📍

*Tucker Mitchell is the executive director of public affairs at Francis Marion University.*



# Brave New World

*At FMU's Wildsumaco Research Station, new species – and new experiences for students – are popping up around every bend.*

BY TUCKER MITCHELL

If a biologist says a curse word in the forest and no one but one of his students hears it, has he (or she) still cursed?

What if the epithet is uttered, essentially, in the name of science and is a product of the sheer joy of discovery?

Francis Marion University student Chris Barnhill ('14) experienced this quasi-philosophical conundrum in the wilds of equatorial Ecuador last summer while accompanying FMU Biology professor Travis Knowles on an afternoon

"specimen walk" at Wildsumaco Station, the biological research station operated by Francis Marion and several other universities.

Rounding a bend on one of several trails at the 1,000-acre park, Barnhill saw some movement in the mud to his right, a slithering mass of something, half in the dirt and half out of it.

"Hey, Dr. Knowles, what's that? Some kind of giant earthworm?" Barnhill asked.

"#\$\*(\*%#@#!" said Knowles. 'It's a '\$\*(\*%#@#!'caecilian!'"

"And then," says Barnhill, recounting the adventure months later, "he (Knowles) turned into Superman. He handed me the 'herp bag' (a special sack used for collecting amphibians, reptiles and other assorted 'herpetofauna'), dove into the brush and grabbed that thing (the caecilian) and pulled it out of the ground. ... (Knowles) was still using some, uh, interesting language when it came up, but he was clearly very excited."

And well, he should have been. Knowles had his hands on a rare specimen, a type of legless salamander (the common name is tailless caecilian; it's in the family Caeciliidae, genus *Caecilia*) that had never been found on that side of the Andes Mountains and which may, indeed, be an entirely new species.

"There was a lot of high-fiving going on," says Barnhill. "We didn't do much the rest of the

day except celebrate and show off (the caecilian). That was neat, definitely one of the coolest things I've ever done."

## NEW SPECIES, HO-HUM...

Wildsumaco may be one of the coolest things Francis Marion University has ever done. At the research station, which is situated on land owned and operated by a group of conservationists, and which also includes a private birding sanctuary, professors and students from FMU and two other colleges spend their days (and nights) roaming through a life-size laboratory perched on a unique ecological precipice. It's next to a 12,000-foot high volcano, halfway between a rain forest and some of the world's highest mountains. The preserve, located in north central Ecuador, is remote and largely unexplored, meaning it is ripe with biological possibilities.

The full extent of those possibilities are just now coming into full focus as FMU completes its third year on site. Wildsumaco, it appears, is teeming with



Barnhill



A newly discovered caecilian.

FMU BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

an abundance of heretofore unknown life forms across the genre spectrum.

Dr. Jeffrey Camper, professor of biology and one of the leaders of FMU's efforts at Wildsumaco, says the richness of the site's ecology has been a pleasant surprise.

"We certainly hoped that it would be like this," says Camper, "but I don't think I can say we expected it would be anything like this. The scope of the undiscovered, unreported species here appears to be remarkable. And we're really just getting started."

Research and confirmation work is ongoing – in some cases, at sites around the world – but it appears that already Wildsumaco has yielded a half dozen brand new species. And the potential is there for much more. Camper says one particular group of "rain frogs" (*genus Pristimantis*) could be home to "10-15 new species."

"I think we'll find (Wildsumaco) is definitely a biodiversity hotspot," says Camper. "It's exciting as a

scientist, and I think that's good for our students to see, in and of itself. You can see what this business is really all about, and it (discoveries) is going to happen to some degree on most of our trips. You're going to find a lot of things. And, in this place, some of them will be species no one has ever seen before. Who wouldn't find that interesting?"

Barnhill agrees, although he notes that with the embarrassment of ecological riches that is Wildsumaco, the astonishingly uncommon can quickly become so hum drum, so every day, as to become the butt of the campsite joke.

"While we were down there it got to be where you'd pick something up, throw in the (collection) bag and say, 'new species!'" says Barnhill. "And then everyone else would say, 'not another one!' It became a joke ... but it is an amazing place."

### NOT THE BEATEN PATH

Wildsumaco is the brainchild of FMU's Knowles, and his counterpart at the University

of North Carolina - Wilmington, Dr. Brian Arbogast. At Knowles' behest, they began searching for a possible Ecuadorean research station in 2008, the search being narrowed to Ecuador because both men recognized its latent potential for biological discovery.

The idea bore surprisingly quick fruit when the two universities were able to team up with the Wildsumaco Wildlife Sanctuary, a private preserve owned and preserved by Americans Bonnie and Jim Olson and their Swedish friend Jonas Nilsson. Lifelong birders, Nilsson and the Olsons purchased the land more than a decade ago. Their intent was, and is, to preserve a large swath of land (about 1,000 acres) in a still pristine area, albeit one where the signs of encroaching development are just a ridge or two away.

The trio built the Wildsumaco Lodge, a rustic, birder's vacation spot, more than a decade ago. Approached by Knowles and

Arbogast about some research space, they readily agreed to lease some land to the university partners. FMU agreed to sponsor construction of the three-building field station and the partnership was launched.

The two American universities also work with an Ecuadorian academic partner – Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador (Catholic University) – as well as with officials from Sumaco National Park, a nearby site that encompasses the Sumaco volcano. The station – officially Wildsumaco Biological Station – was completed and opened in 2012. It's been receiving a steady stream of students and professors from FMU and UNCW ever since – and has been delivering one discovery after another.

There's no mystery to Wildsumaco's ecological richness. Set on a ridge above a river valley, next to a volcano that is about halfway up the Andes, it is a unique geographical site. The semi-tropical climate provides a lush beginning to the region's food chain, but the varied

the preserve's 200-some acres. By comparison, the species count for all of North America is around 1,000.

That would be interesting and, from a researcher's perspective, rewarding all by itself. But FMU's Camper says what makes Wildsumaco special is the rugged terrain that chops the jungle up into small compartments, each containing its very own biosphere.

"It's a jungle, which is usually quite rich," says Camper, "and then the mountains make it so that it's quite easy for a small area, valley, slope, etc., to be isolated and a range limited. You have species that get trapped, if you will, in a small space. And they're very different from the species just a short distance away on the other side of the ridge."

On top of all that is the fact that the area just hasn't been explored. It's remote and it's in Ecuador, which is not exactly on the beaten path from a worldwide point of view.

The discovery of the new – or newly scattered – caecilian is a case in point. Researchers have never seen that species, or any version of it, on the east slope of the Andes. But there haven't been many researchers looking there either.

"It's just not a place where there's been a lot of study," says Knowles, the director of the Wildsumaco Research Station. "We knew that going in, but until you get out in the field and begin working, that really doesn't hit home. The potential for this place is just astounding."

## WORLDWIDE RESEARCH

Because it's still early in the history of the Wildsumaco Research Station, and because students play a large role in the work, a good bit of what has gone on so far has a sort of haphazard feel, much like the fortuitous discovery of the caecilian by

Barnhill and Knowles during a rainy day walk. But refinement is coming.

FMU and UNCW researchers are already zeroing in on several species. A rare small cat called the Margay (*Leopardus wiedii*) has become an early focal project (and, indeed, has become the station's semi-official mascot/logo). The discoveries related to the Margay at Wildsumaco, says Knowles, are highly significant from both a scientific and conservation standpoint.

On the "herp" track, Camper and company are also honing their work. He readily admits that a lot of the discovery work in his area has, so far, involved a fair amount of "accidents."

"That's just the nature of the business," says Camper. "You know certain things, like that night time is a good time. But there is some luck involved, no doubt."

A lack of luck leads to more thoughtful strategies for the future. For example, Camper says a particularly interesting frog that's been discovered will require identifying and recording its mating call before verification of its status can be completed. But it is beginning to appear that FMU's current trip schedule – built around the basic academic year – may be missing the times when the frogs are "in the mood."

"So if we want to get that we may have to get someone down there at a different time," says Camper. "We're working on that."

The discovery and verification process in biology doesn't work quickly either, and it's surprisingly complicated. Camper came across the first caecilian back in 2011, just as the research station was opening. That preserved specimen is at the Catholic University in Ecuador. Two other live specimens were found last year and sent to Catholic (all specimens must



FMU BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Dr. Jeff Camper with a few of his newly discovered friends at Wildsumaco.

elevations and terrains mean a wide variety of life forms can exist and thrive in the area. Some idea of the scale can be found in the fact that the official "bird list" at the Wildsumaco Lodge includes more than 500 species sited on



remain in Ecuador).

The caecilians currently in custody have been studied and cataloged using morphology – basically a physical description of their form and structure – but more work is required to confirm that this is indeed a new species. That will mean DNA testing.

Camper says that technology has grown by leaps and bounds in the past decade or so, but that doesn't mean he can just drop off a couple samples at the local ag extension office and get a report back two weeks later. The work can only be done in a few places, and those labs often have large backlogs. DNA from Wildsumaco's caecilians is in line for comparison studies in both Ecuador and England, the latter being home to one of the world's leading experts on the subject.

"We're going worldwide!" says Camper.

## WILD MEMORIES

For students like Chris Barnhill, Wildsumaco is not so much about changing the world – at least not yet – as it is about changing lives.

Barnhill says he's still not sure just what he'll do with his biology degree. He's currently pondering a healthcare career, by which he means the health of humans not caecilians. But no matter where he ends up, he'll never forget the time he spent in Ecuador.

Barnhill's eyes still light up thinking of the day he found a sample of what may be a previously unknown species.

Part of that is youthful

wonder and part is youthful hijinks.

After capturing the caecilian, Barnhill kept it in a trunk beside his bed at Wildsumaco, waiting for Camper to return so that he could show it to him as a surprise.

"We had kind of a pool among the students as to which of several, um, colorful expressions Camper would use when we showed it to him," says Barnhill.

And who won the pool?

"Well, I guess you'd say we all did," says Barnhill, "because when (Camper) saw it, he said every one of them."

Ah, the marvels of science. 🐸

*Tucker Mitchell is executive director of public affairs at Francis Marion University.*



## New critter paradise

Wildsumaco Research Station has turned out to be biologist's paradise, with new, or near new, species popping up everywhere. Here's a look at some of what's been discovered so far:

- A • Tree porcupine (genus *Coendou*) – Possible new species.
- B • Margay (*Leopardus wiedii*) – "Near endangered" species found in record numbers.
- C • Tree frog (ostecephalus) – Probable new species.
- D • Spectacled bear (*Tremarctos ornatus*). Documentation of endangered species. Less than 15,000 (estimated) remain worldwide.

Caecelian (genus *Caecilia*) – Possible new species discovered, at the very least evidence of a dramatically extended range. (See page 8, 10)

### Not Pictured:

- Coati (genus *Nasua*) – Possible new species.
- Tiny leaf litter frog (genus *Nobella*) – Probable new species.
- Rain frogs (genus *Prisitamantis*)
- Mushroom-tongued Salamander (genus *Bolitoglossa*) – Possible new species.
- Ground snake (genus *Atractus*) – Possible new species.
- White-lipped lizard (genus *Cercosaura*) – Possible new species.
- Mountain Tapir (*Tapirus pinchaque*) – First documentation in country of this critically endangered species.



# A (reluctant) son of Ireland

*His dad wanted to be an American,  
but Chris Kennedy couldn't  
ignore his roots*

BY ANGELA CROSLAND

**A** look into the mirror wouldn't readily reveal the Irish ancestry in the bones of Dr. Chris Kennedy, chair of FMU's History Department. No red hair or freckles here, no mischievous, leprechaun-like grin or jauntily cocked hat.

And if Kennedy's father, David, had his way, that t'would be the end o' it, right then and there. Though the family name, and the ancestry, are as Irish as that can get, David wanted no part of the Emerald Isle. As far back as Kennedy can remember, his father, an Irish immigrant, did all he could to disassociate both himself and his family from the culture, says Kennedy. David was an American. To make that point perfectly clear, he joined the United States Marines. David was committed to a country, all right. The good ol U.S. of A.

"My father was the last of seven sons to come from Ireland and he wanted to become as American as he could," says Kennedy. "He didn't like the old country."

But, as much as his father pushed to sever ties with his native land, Chris Kennedy found himself propelled to embrace it.

Kennedy completed his undergraduate studies in history in December of 1989, but until that point had conducted very little research of Ireland. Ironically, it was the book, "Ireland 1912-1985: Politics and Society" written by Joseph Lee, given to him by his parents the Christmas of 1989, that prompted him to delve further into Irish sentiments during the period of the Rising.

"I assumed my father finally came around," says Kennedy. In the book, Lee writes, "Much probing of local research is required to establish a more precise





chronology and archeology of popular sentiment.”

This was a call to action for Kennedy who, once he completed his master’s thesis involving the study of Irish public opinion, decided to send it to the one who inspired the journey – Joseph Lee, the renowned Irish historian and author.

“On a lark, I said let me just send this off to this guy to see if he likes it,” says Kennedy. “He read it and said get your butt over here.”

And that is how he ended up in Ireland and fell into some great sources.

## PIONEERING RESEARCH

While there, he completed his Ph.D. at the University College of Cork, giving rise to his most accomplished work, “Genesis of the Rising 1912-1926: A Transformation of National Opinion.” In the book, Kennedy analyzes public opinion in order to disprove the “turning of the tide” theory in Irish history, which asserts that British blunders in the wake of the failed Rising are what turned the tides in favor of Rebels.

While historians have said that the tide turned all at once, Kennedy’s research claims that Irish nationalism had been changing gradually since home rule was denied after being promised in 1912. As is always the case with pioneering research, Kennedy said his stand created further discussion by other scholars.

Kennedy’s research in the book was based on material that had been avoided by other historians. He says his studies revealed the true feelings of the Irish during a time when they were faced with persecution if they were open about their opinions.

The study of public opinion is complicated enough. Then, you add the turbulent era in Anglo-Irish relations from 1912-1916, and you categorically have a problem, says Kennedy.



DAVID KENNEDY

“It’s really a contentious issue but public opinion is hard to ascertain,” says Kennedy. “What I’m saying to readers is, ‘What I’m doing is crazy but bear with me, there might be some fruit here. Traditional public opinion might not have been as accurate as what I’m trying to show.’”

Public opinion, both on an individual and collective basis, is affected by the structure of the political social hierarchy, says Kennedy.

In his research, Kennedy attempts to present material that would likely impact opinion and exploration of the spectrum of opinion, from open to more private, which was said to have been veiled, consequently which is a major part of his studies.

“The book really speaks to the fact that people will keep their true feelings private, especially in a hierarchal or conquered society,” says Kennedy. “Just as slaves aren’t going to come out and correct their masters and employees aren’t going to confront their bosses with the truth, the Irish wouldn’t reveal their true feelings to the British occupants.”

This Celtic notion has gotten him into a little trouble in the South, says Kennedy.

“The public persona here might be southern hospitality or gentile, but right behind that is their true feeling of ‘won’t those idiots from New York go home,’” says Kennedy. “And when I give talks about this in other settings, they say that it is

southerners to a T”

He believes since he arrived in Florence and joined the FMU faculty in 2006, he’s learned quite a bit about Southern culture but at the foremost of his heart is the old country of Ireland. To that end, he has presented papers both nationally and internationally, including at Saint Patrick’s College and the Marino Institute in Ireland, and the New England Historical Association. Additionally, he has published a number of book reviews for the journal *Providence: Studies in Western Civilization* as well as a book, *Genesis of the Rising 1912-1916: A Transformation of Nationalist Opinion* (Peter Lang, 2009). His main research interests are in early modern and modern Irish history as well as the history of the British Empire.

## THE IRISH WAY

Kennedy has found a few ways to pass along his interests in the Irish culture. Besides teaching everything from European History to the French Revolution and European History since the French Revolution to Medieval Europe and Europe 1814-1914 to his students, he also assists with The Irish Way, a summer study abroad program in Ireland offered to both American and Canadian college and high school students.

In the program, students are introduced to Ireland’s magical landscape and rich customs through a variety of workshops, classes, and tours over the course of two or four weeks during the summer in Ireland. The program emphasizes culture, education, travel, safety, and fun, to ensure a unique and unforgettable journey for every student, says Kennedy. After all, he says, it is the Irish Way. 🍀

Angela Crosland is Director of Communications at Francis Marion University.



Some of the FMU grads employed at Webster Rogers, along with members of FMU's School of Business, at WR's Florence office. MATT MCCOLL/FMU



WEBSTER

# A Partner *and* a Partnership

*The Carroll Webster connection has made WebsterRogers a second home for FMU grads*

BY MATT MCCOLL ('09)

**E**very big accounting firm needs some good partners.

Florence accounting giant WebsterRogers LLP is fortunate to have a bunch of them, including ... Francis Marion University.

The firm and the university have enjoyed a long and mutually beneficial relationship that's seen WebsterRogers' growth fueled by a steady influx of Francis Marion graduates.

Sixteen FMU grads currently work at WebsterRogers and many more have worked there at various points in their career. It's a steady flow from a pipeline that stays open because of internships, scholarships (WebsterRogers LLP endowed a scholarship in 2002), and ongoing communication between the firm and the accounting, marketing, and business faculty at FMU's School of

Business.

Frank M. "Buzz" Rogers, a WebsterRogers founding partner and firm namesake, says a dependable local source of new talent has been a boon to the growing firm into the second-largest public accounting firm headquartered in the state of South Carolina in just more than three decades of existence.

"When we have a need for this organization as we grow, we can reach from within our own population that's been educated here to fill those needs," Rogers says. "Having local talent that's been educated locally and can stay here and help the community is very important to us. It helps give the office a very local flavor."

A well-respected, growing accounting firm, and a nearby university with a highly regarded professional school for accountants

and other business majors would likely have produced some relationship no matter what other factors were in play. But the WebsterRogers-FMU connection might not have started as soon as it did, and certainly would not enjoy the same relational depth, were it not for one very special ingredient: Carroll Webster.

Webster was one of FMU's first accounting professors. He taught accounting and taxation at the school from 1973-82, then left to join Rogers and several others in forming a new Florence accounting firm, Webster, Rogers, West, Berry & Grady. Webster officially retired from the firm that eventually became WebsterRogers LLP in 2011. He remains a consulting partner.

Webster says his immediate past connection to FMU gave him an obvious "in" with faculty and



students at the school, particularly in the accounting department. But just as importantly, it gave him the confidence to make the earlier hires which helped established the lasting trend.

"Having been a professor out there was a big advantage for me," Webster says. "I always had a leg up at Francis Marion and knew what I was getting. If someone came out of there with a 3.5 grade point average or higher, I knew we were getting someone who was well versed in accounting."

Webster and the new firm began hiring from FMU immediately. But the pace really picked up as the firm developed and the university grew. During the mid-1990s, WebsterRogers grew at a rapid pace. New satellite offices were established in Myrtle Beach, Sumter, Hilton Head, Georgetown, Charleston, Columbia, and Pawley's Island; and the firm's headquarters operation grew, too. That growth required a continuous infusion of talent. WebsterRogers' partners knew just where to look. FMU grads popped up everywhere in the firm and quickly dominated the corporate landscape. At one point during the firm's rapid expansion in the 1990s, every member of the tax department – a critical arm of the practice – was an FMU grad.

"The relationship with Francis Marion is not coincidental," Webster said. "I've always been very loyal to the university... I never took my eye off of the opportunities we've had with Francis Marion."

### A 'SECRET SOURCE'

The connection has worked for WebsterRogers on a number of levels. Management at the firm believes it has found a "secret source" of top drawer business and accounting talent at FMU that it can tap long before other businesses even know about it. And, because those employees have some connection to the Florence area – many are from the area, all have, at the very least, spent their college years at FMU – they're more likely to stay. But a pathway to advancement at

a significant and well-resourced local business – one like WebsterRogers – can keep the kids at home.

That has been the case with William Hardaway III, a 2011 FMU accounting graduate who joined WebsterRogers immediately after his tassels were turned at commencement. For Hardaway, the decision was pretty easy. For a top accounting student from FMU, a post at WebsterRogers was a plum.

"Being from Florence, I was very aware of the firm," Hardaway says. "WebsterRogers is the place you want to go if you're in Florence."

JoAnna Hicks, WebsterRogers' marketing and operations manager, followed a similar trajectory. She joined WebsterRogers in 1991, during the big ramp up. She completed her schooling while she worked, eventually earning a 2003 degree from FMU (she graduated magna cum laude). She's now among the longest-tenured employees at WebsterRogers.

### TOP TALENT

The relationship with WebsterRogers provides the university's School of Business with some unique tools. The ongoing internships are nice, but they're really just the tip of the iceberg as far as the university is concerned. Regular access for top graduates to top jobs at

a leading firm is an invaluable asset.

Dr. Charles Carpenter, the Francis Marion First Union Bank chair in accounting and interim assistant to the dean of the school of business, says that connection means better results for graduates, but better results for the university as well.

"(WebsterRogers) has provided a professional experience for our graduates, which the graduates have shared with students in the program," Carpenter says. "That serves as an incentive for more students to major in accounting and business."

It wouldn't work, of course, if FMU's grads had not performed for WebsterRogers. But they have, which should come as no real surprise given the nature of the relationship and the pipeline it has produced. FMU faculty members value the connection and hence, tend to bring their best students to the attention of WebsterRogers' hiring managers. Of the 16 current employees, three (including Hicks) were magna cum laude graduates and two more graduated summa cum laude. Nine of the graduates majored in accounting. One is a biology major. The rest majored in business or a business marketing mix. Three have Masters from FMU.

"Based upon the performance of the graduates from our program with the firm, I believe they (WebsterRogers) have found intelligent, hardworking persons with a strong work ethic," Carpenter says.

"Over the years," says Buzz Rogers, "they've been some of our best employees." 📍

*Matt McColl is a 2009 graduate of Francis Marion University. He is the marketing director for the North Eastern Strategic Alliance, an economic development corporation based in Florence.*



ROGERS

### PATRIOT LEDGER

Sixteen FMU graduates are currently working at Florence's WebsterRogers, LLP. Here's a list of the Patriots on the company's ledger:

Tabatha Bellflowers ('07), Carol Braddock ('96, MBA '00), Jesus Cruz ('14), Nelda Fields ('78), Joe Griffin ('99), William Hardaway III ('11), JoAnna Hicks ('03), Emily Hicks ('98), Flora Hill ('94), Stephen Holladay ('89), Andrea Jones ('03), Sharon Norris ('85), Angela Polk ('83), Patrice Sebastian ('02), Kevin Wise ('07), Carroll Webster (FMU faculty, '73-'82)



# A joyful noise

*For 25 years, the Young, Gifted & Blessed choir has carried on a spiritual tradition at FMU*

BY JOHN SWEENEY ('09)

**"If you came here to be entertained, you came to the wrong place."**

This isn't the typical invitation to a concert at Francis Marion University – or anywhere for that matter – but that's what a packed house heard at the fall performance of FMU's Young Gifted and Blessed (or YGB) gospel choir.

While most entertainers hope to achieve some level of entertainment with their audiences, YGB performers shutter at being described as mere "entertainers." They are hoping to do a little better than that. They want their patrons to experience the divine.

"I want them to say we gave them Jesus," says Jeffery Lampkin, the group's director. Again, probably not typical of performances at FMU, but then again describing YGB as "typical" is always a mistake.

And, as far as that goes, not being entertained has never been so

entertaining as it is at YGB's rollicking, fully amplified celebrations of faith and music.

The group has been a part of university life at FMU for 25 years. A generation of YGBers have made a name for themselves – in the Florence community, and in more recent years, across South Carolina – while spreading a message of spirituality and maintaining the powerful tradition of the African American gospel choir.

## **'SUNDAY EXPERIENCE'**

All of that, and more, was on display at last fall's show. People began crowding into Chapman Auditorium's lobby and onto the concrete steps outside nearly two hours in advance. There, one could hear the more than 50 voices in a pre-concert warm up, accompanied by clapping hands and stomping feet. The vibrations escaped through the venue's walls and into the autumn air.

Inside, the thunder rose to an impressive volume. Director Lampkin

led the choir in sound check at a last minute rehearsal that was far more than a simple walk through. Lampkin challenged the group to perform one of their more difficult selections, "Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho" by Dexter Walker and Zion Movement, a cappella.

"It's such a complicated song, it has so many movements in it," Lampkin said that afternoon. "In gospel we don't have movements. We just have the chorus, the verse, the bridge. That's kind of how we flow, an A, a B, and a C. But in this song you've got A,B,C,D, E, movements to the song and they had never done it without music."

Such an exercise, Lampkin explained, stretches YGB's ability and keeps them focused on the upcoming performance. That combination of psychology and technique is just one of the reasons Lampkin was brought in as director of the group four years ago, even though he isn't a member of staff or the student body at Francis





YGB choir in action. JEFF SMITH/FMU

Marion.

Lampkin begins his work with YGB as a consultant, tasked with improving the troupe's sound. But an unexpected vacancy at director in the middle of a season – paired with the student's lingering desire to take the group to the touring level – pushed Lampkin into the director's chair (although to be honest, the job, at least as he performs it, doesn't seem to entail much sitting).

Lampkin's mission to improve the sound has gone hand in hand with a push to take that sound more places. YGB has adopted

a more aggressive touring circuit, regularly traveling around the state to perform. It was, for instance, the only college choir in the state to sing at Columbia's Family Fest & Memorial Tribute, a gospel festival attended by more than 40,000 people.

"This choir has gone to another dimension and another level," says Lampkin.

## A NEW NAME

YGB is an organization with many different levels; be it the varying roles its 78 members play – most sing in the choir, but others serve as musical accompaniment, ushers and other support staff – to the history behind its name.

The initials "YGB" didn't always mean "Young Gifted and Blessed." When the group was started in the late 1980s, with the late Rebecca Lunn, a former FMU staffer, as its first university advisor, it was known as the "Young, Gifted and *Black*" choir. Not surprisingly, it was made up entirely of African Americans.

"Young, Gifted and Black" comes from a 1970 song written by Nina Simone and Weldon Irvine, *To Be Young, Gifted and Black*. Upon its release, it quickly climbed the R&B charts and soon turned into something of a civil rights anthem. Its popularity increased still more when the "Queen of Soul," Aretha Franklin, released her 1972 album under the same name, which included a cover of the Simone/Irvine tune. Since then, "Young, Gifted and Black" has been covered by a variety of artists and interpreted in numerous genres. Because of that, the phrase was folded into the lexicon surrounding African American culture.

It served the FMU group well during its formative years. But the Rev. Donald L. Jackson, the group's current staff advisor, says a decade or so in, students thought their spiritual message needed to extend to a wider audience.

"We wanted to create diversity," says Jackson.

So, Young, Gifted & *Blessed* was formed. The group, which operates as

a university-sponsored organization, now has more than a decade of tradition behind the new name. And, some progress has been with regards to diversity. Students of more than one race have participated from time to time. But, the vast majority of YGB's members then and now are African American. The group at the November performance, for instance, was entirely African American.

## BEYOND 'ENTERTAINMENT'

Whatever its name, YGB's focus is far more spiritual political, the draw religious not secular.

Kristian Nelson, YGB's president and a senior at Francis Marion, was drawn to the choir as a freshman because she sought the spiritual fulfillment she knew growing up in the Christian faith of her hometown of Charleston. "I grew up at church and always went to church every Sunday," Nelson says. "But when I came to college, I found there was nothing for me to do, so I

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Jeffrey Lampkin has been director of the choir since 2011.

JEFF SMITH/FMU





Photos: Jeff Smith/FMU

## YGB AT WORK

The Young, Gifted and Blessed is a big group with a big sound. That includes musicians, like Lorenzo Vice on keyboard (left) and vocalists like Fenisha Dogans (below). The 80-member group is more than 25 years old.



...was sort of missing the Christianity aspect."

Through her fellow students, Nelson heard of YGB and joined.

"I think that speaks to the authenticity of our ministry," director Lampkin said of the crowd. "I think it speaks to the impact that we have on so many lives over and over. We try to make sure that everything we do is in order, that we operate in order and that we do everything the way God would want us to do."

Hence, the fall concert this year was billed as a "Sunday Morning Experience," and the performance featured three preachers – including Jackson, who, by day, works in the university's accounting department – and a small local gospel choir. They all served, after a fashion, as YGB's

opening act. And it was clear that YGB was the star of the show.

Even before the headliners arrived on stage, audience members were already on their feet, shouting praise, closing their eyes with hands raised, and some even moved to tears. The excitement grew with each high-powered note YGB belted out, audience members soaking up some of the faith conveyed by each song.

Members of YGB were definitely into it. Sweat rolled down more than one brow. The audience swooned. Something definitely beyond "entertainment" was going on.

"We want people to leave with some kind of change, some kind of experience," says Nelson. "If a little

tear comes to your eye we know we touched you some kind of way, and that's our goal really. Just to move you a little bit so you can get closer to God, or so you can see why we're doing what we're doing." 🙏

*John Sweeney ('09) is a field representative in congressman Tom Rice's Florence office.*





**Congratulations to FMU's first graduating class of Nurse Educators and Family Nurse Practitioners!**



**Many proud family members were in attendance.**



**The excitement was contagious!**



**Rep. Jay Lucas is hooded by State Senator Hugh K. Leatherman, President Pro Tempore of the S.C. Senate (left) and George McIntyre, chairman of the FMU Board of Trustees, during Fall graduation ceremonies. Lucas received an honorary doctorate and was also the commencement speaker.**

## **FALL 2014 COMMENCEMENT VIEW**





# Scholarship can be rewarding

*In its first decade, Francis Marion University's Trustee Research Scholars program has helped 'stoke the fires' of academic pursuit*

**BY AMY LAUREN SCOTT ('07)**

It's hard to find a college professor who doesn't like teaching, but what draws most people to the profession, at least at some point, is the research; that all-encompassing passion to study a particular topic, to perfect a particular task.

It's a feeling, says Dr. Jon Tuttle, a professor of English and director of the Honors Program at Francis Marion University, that is the central endeavor, indeed to the life, of the academic.

"It's what keeps our fires stoked," says Tuttle. "It's what keeps us active in our fields, keeps us going."

For Tuttle, a gifted playwright whose works have been performed on stages across the country, research means writing, publishing, seeing his works performed and – he is quite forthright about this – seeing his name

up in the proverbial lights.

"You never get tired of seeing your name, article, or play in print," says Tuttle. "You never get to the point where that's not thrilling. The thrill is what keeps you pushing ahead."

But, how to keep the thrill alive?

It is no easy question, but it's one Francis Marion University has worked to answer over the past decade with its Trustee Research Scholars Program.

## **SOME FREE TIME**

Founded in 2002 under the direction of FMU President Fred Carter, the Trustee's Scholars program recognizes faculty members' scholarship and research by giving them a little extra cash, some additional free time to pursue their passion for a field of study, and, to Tuttle's point, some affirming recognition among their peers.

Research Scholars at FMU serve three-year renewable terms, with new scholars named as others retire. The program is limited to 12 faculty members – it's been expanded to that number over time – who are chosen by Carter, the faculty chair (currently Dr. Rebecca Flannagan), and FMU Provost Dr. Richard Chapman.

During its first decade in existence, the program has given

greater visibility to the faculty's scholarship, and has signaled the administration's interest in fostering true research at a university long lauded for its teaching acumen. Chapman says the scholars program has greatly increased campus awareness of the importance of scholarship and research, and has fulfilled its primary role of promoting scholarly pursuits.

"By rewarding scholarly activity, the program encourages our faculty to develop and pursue an active research agenda," Chapman says. "That benefits the university in myriad ways."

Chapman says that one of the program's strengths is recognizing outstanding creative and artistic productivity, as well as acknowledging more traditional academic and scientific research. For this reason, scholars include faculty from all backgrounds and disciplines. Though not necessarily the aim of the scholars program, that's been useful in giving FMU's research push an inclusive feel.

Lynn Kostoff, Professor of English and Nellie Cooke Sparrow Writer in Residence, was recognized as a Research Scholar in 2011. He is the author of three novels, *A Choice of Nightmares*, *The Long Fall*, and *Late Rain*, with a fourth novel, *Words to Die For*, scheduled for publication in April. As a Research Scholar, Kostoff sees the reduced teaching



load – he teaches three classes a semester – as the greatest benefit. His “research” is, of course, related to the writing of new novels.

“Teaching has always been my top priority -- and it still is,” says Kostoff. “Before being named as a Research Scholar, I was writing novels, but also working hard to be a good teacher. The reduced teaching load means I have fewer papers to grade, less reading for classes, and more time to write.”

Tenure track professors at Francis Marion typically teach a “3-4 load,” that is three courses one semester and four another.

Non-tenure track faculty teach four each semester. The Research Scholars load, then, is reduced by one course over the standard academic year, but it may feel like more because it allows for a standardization of the load from year to year.

Kostoff notes that this has helped him stick to his plan of writing one novel draft per year. He usually completes four drafts before submitting his work to his agent, so his publishing schedule has become more regular.

Kostoff’s free time isn’t spent just on writing. Since the protagonist in his latest novel, *The Head Start*, works as a probation officer, Kostoff spent a considerable amount of time researching the probation and parole systems to ensure the novel’s details are accurate.

## SHOOTING A PIG

Fellow Research Scholar Dr. Scott Kaufman, a professor of History at FMU, has utilized the extra time afforded by his scholar status to write, travel, and to conduct and transcribe interviews. Kaufman is currently writing two books and editing a set of essays about former presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford. He recently interviewed President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter, as well as members of Carter’s and Ford’s administrations.

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# The new class of scholars

Francis Marion named four new Trustee Research Scholars in the Fall of 2014. Here’s a look at the latest faculty to be honored:



**Dr. Lisa A. Eargle**  
*Professor of Sociology*

**Dr. Lisa A. Eargle is a native of Blythewood, S.C. Her research interests include local economic development and prosperity, environment and hazards, crime/deviance, and education. She is a national authority on the sociological effects of natural disasters.**

**Dr. Christopher D. Johnson**  
*Professor of English*

**Dr. Johnson is a native of Allamuchy, N.J. His research is focused on 18th-century fiction, with particular interest in John Dryden, Jonathan Swift, Henry Fielding, Sarah Fielding, and Oliver Goldsmith.**



**Dr. Derek W. Jokisch**  
*Professor of Physics*

**Dr. Jokisch is a native of Carlinville, Ill. His research interests include medical physics, nuclear engineering, radiation protection, nuclear medicine, radiation dosimetry, and radiation biology.**



**Dr. Terry Roberts**  
*Professor of Music*

**Dr. Roberts is a native of Oklahoma City, Okla. Dr. Roberts is an accomplished soloist (the French Horn is his primary instrument) and has performed around the world as both a chamber and orchestral musician.**



Kaufman says that while gaining some relief from his teaching load helps his research, his research into diplomatic relations and presidential history helps him teach more effectively.



Previous Trustee Research Scholar recipients, Dr. Lynn Kostoff and Dr. John Tuttle, reflect on the front porch of the Cottage.

“Teaching and research are very much related,” says Kaufman. “History is telling a story with analysis, and research allows you to deeply understand issues and offer new and exciting interpretations for the classroom.”

For example, Kaufman has transferred research on the Pig War, an 1859 Canadian border dispute between the United States and the British Empire that was triggered by the shooting a pig, into a dynamic classroom experience for students. In a classroom exercise developed by Kaufman, students analyze documents Kaufman found while performing his research, and attempt to determine which sides were telling the truth during the conflict ... and which side was bending it. The exercise provides students with an interactive and collaborative way of learning. They wouldn’t have that opportunity without the primary source documents Kaufman makes available, and Kaufman wouldn’t have those documents if he wasn’t doing the research work. ... which he might not have time to do if not

for the Research Scholars program.

Dr. Lisa Eargle, Professor of Sociology and one of the newest Trustee Research Scholars, balances her teaching and research with her duties as chair of Department of Sociology and the administration of the Sociology internship program.

Eargle’s research focuses on disasters such as the 2010 BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and 2012’s Hurricane Sandy. Her book, *Black Beaches and Bayous*, was published in 2012. She has another book, *Savage Sand and Surf*, pending publication in 2015. Since the Pee Dee is subject to hurricanes, her research has local implications.

Eargle says she’s grateful to be honored as a Trustee Research Scholar, but says her dogged pursuit of scholarship probably wouldn’t end without it.

“I’ve been a professor for 18 years and received many rejection letters from research and publications,” says Eargle. “It’s disheartening, but I’ve stayed dedicated to my research and had faith. We are a community of learners, and I’ve put what I’ve gained from teaching right back into my research.”

To make the most of her time, Eargle manages her hectic schedule using a paperback planner that she reviews at least twice a day. She also staggers class deadlines and due dates, and often works through lunch.

According to Chapman, a tremendous work ethic – like Eargle’s – is one factor that distinguishes Research Scholars, and is something the university is happy to recognize and promote.

“Our Research Scholars are gifted teachers and scholars who work hard and are extremely productive,” he said. “Some are department chairs and others have community responsibilities, but all of their classes are well taught and they’ve learned to balance the demands of teaching, administrative responsibilities, and research.”

Chapman says that the Research Scholars program benefits everyone in the university community, including alumni, because it reinforces the significance of a degree from Francis Marion University, whether that degree is earned in the past, present, or future.

“All of our Research Scholars have carved places for themselves in their disciplines,” says Chapman. “Their research is recognized throughout the southeast and the nation, and this enhances our university’s reputation.”

*Amy Lauren Scott is a technical writer for ACS Technologies. She and her husband reside in Charleston, S.C.*

## Twelve years of Scholars

Trustees’ Research Scholars include Jeff Camper (biology), Fred David (business), Lisa Eargle (sociology), Scott Kaufman (history), Christopher Johnson (English), Derek Jokisch (physics), Scott Kaufman (history), Lynn Kostoff (English), Jeff Lee (education), Larry McCumber (biology), Leroy Peterson, Jr. (chemistry), Terry Roberts (music) and Jon Tuttle (English).

Retired Research Scholars include: Drs. John Britton (political science), E. Lorraine de Montluzin (history), William Fox (mathematics), Jeffrey Pompe (business), William Ramsey (English), and Benjamin Woods (music).



# 'Tis better to have a new curriculum done...

## ACADEMIA

Members of Francis Marion University's Department of English might or might not wax poetic about the recent journey to a new departmental curriculum. But that labor part? That sounds about right.

For four long years, various groups and committees from all facets of the English Department have wrestled with the first re-design of the department's curriculum in years. Re-writes and re-dos, red lines and redactions have burned up the hours. Syllabi and reading lists were created, eyes have stared down word processor screens until both went blurry.

"This," says FMU's Dr. Pamela Rooks, who chaired the curriculum committee during much of the process, "represents a lot of work. ... By a lot of people."

In the end, most would agree it's been worth it. Twenty-five years after the last major re-working of the curriculum, one of FMU's largest departments now has a modern set of courses and course sequences. That puts the department ahead of the departments at many of FMU's sister institutions, and offers the university's English majors a more logical and comprehensive course of study.

The most noticeable changes in the new curriculum, which is being phased in beginning this academic year, is the reduction in 300-level survey courses (English majors will now be required to take just two surveys, one each in American and British literature), and an increase in the total credits required for a major, from 34 to 37.

Other changes may seem less substantive from the outside, but could make more difference academically. Both Rooks and Dr. Christopher Johnson, chair of the Department of English, say two important considerations were "balancing" the curriculum so that all majors are introduced to a variety of literary styles and geographies; and adding more specificity to course listings so that a student's transcript would better reflect the work they'd done. Under the old system, many upper division classes were simply listed as "Advanced Topics," or "Advanced Studies." In the new system, the courses will have specific titles. And previously, majors could earn a diploma with, for example, just three British literature courses and no world literature studies under their belt. That seemed like a misstep to some in the department, and indeed, the imbalance between British and American Lit, a longstanding issue in English departments across the country, was actually the starting point for FMU's curriculum redesign project.

The added specificity in the upper level courses will decrease flexibility a bit, but majors looking to move on to graduate programs will find their path much easier because their transcripts will be easier for outsiders to decipher.

"(The Department of English) has had a good record of making small changes all along the way," says Johnson. "It was just time to make some larger ones. We're moving away from what has been tradition here, and at many other universities, for more than 25 years. You just reach that point eventually."



JOHNSON

Johnson and Rooks say a variety of indirect and unexpected benefits will also accrue from the new curriculum. There was quite a bit of that as the project developed and grew from its nascent stage, Johnson said.

"It really reminded me of a home remodeling project," says Johnson. "You start with some wallpaper and pretty soon you're knocking down walls and re-doing roof-lines. The committee was looking at one particular

situation, and then it started asking some big questions and ... well, here we are."

---  
Tucker Mitchell

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

**D**R. JEFF STEINMETZ, associate professor of Biology, and **DR. GEORGE E. "BUCK" SCHNIBBEN**, professor of Mathematics, were inducted into Francis Marion University's chapter of Phi Kappa Phi this fall. ... **DR. PETER KING**, professor of Biology and Associate Provost at FMU, had an article published with co-author John Ludlam (a former assistant professor of Biology at FMU) entitled "Status of Diamondback Terrapins (*Malaclemys terrapin*) in North Inlet-Winyah Bay, South Carolina," in *Chelonian Conservation and Biology*. ... Associate Professor of Biology **TRAVIS KNOWLES** presented a paper, "Temperate mountain grasslands as ghosts of megafauna past," at the Megafauna & Ecosystem Function conference at Oxford University, St. John's College, UK, last spring. The conference, "Megafauna and Ecosystem Function: from the Pleistocene to the Anthropocene," was attended by academic specialists from



ROOKS

## ACADEMIA

around the world. ... **DR. SHAYNA WRIGHTEN**, assistant professor of Biology, was selected through a competitive application process to be a participant at the 2014 BRAINS (Broadening the Representation of Academic Investigators in NeuroScience) symposium. This is a national program to accelerate and improve the career advancement of neuroscience post-doctoral researchers and assistant professors from underrepresented groups. Wrighten attended the multi-day

professional development symposium in the fall. She also receives \$2,000 for research or additional travel. ... **DR. ANN STOECKMANN**, chair of the Department of Biology, was appointed to the grant committee for Duke Energy's Water Resources Fund. **STOECKMANN** is also the co-author of a chapter entitled, "Limiting environmental factors and competitive interactions between zebra and quagga mussels in North America" in the book: *Quagga and Zebra Mussels: Biology, Impacts, and Control*. ... **DR. LORI TURNER**, assistant professor of Biology, and **STOECKMANN**, accompanied FMU students to the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students

(ABRCMS) on November 12 - 15 in San Antonio, TX. ... **DR. TAMATHA BARBEAU**, associate professor of Biology, is the advisor for the newly formed Pre-Vet (Veterinarian) Club at FMU. ...

The FMU Herbarium, under the direction of Dr. Gerald Long, is part of a four-year National Science Foundation grant that will fund the creation of digital images of its 100,000-plus preserved plant specimen collection. The project, which is being conducted in conjunction with Clemson University, aims to build a digital inventory highlighting the southeastern United States as a "global hotspot of plant diversity." FMU's

herbarium will receive some funding to support a student worker. ... FMU's Department of Biology has joined the new "Bench to Bedside (B2B)" initiative sponsored by the South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium and supported by the Duke Endowment. The program is designed to provide undergraduate students who are disadvantaged, or from under-represented populations, with pre-healthcare career training activities and experiences. FMU is joining College of Charleston, Coastal Carolina, Winthrop, South Carolina State, Clemson, and Claflin Universities in the B2B collaboration. ...Six scholars, one poet, and two alumnae from the Department of English, Modern Languages, & Philosophy presented their work at the 2014 conference of the Popular Culture Association in the South/American Culture Association in the South in New Orleans this fall. The group included **DR. CHRISTOPHER**



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

## Warters takes the stage

**Dr. Alissa Warters**, associate professor of political science and director of The Robert E. McNair Center for Research and Service at FMU, took her place among the top five political scholars in the state to open discussion about the gubernatorial campaign and election at the University of South Carolina this fall.

The rematch between incumbent S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley and challenger Sen. Vincent Sheheen was the focus of the symposium hosted by USC's College of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Political Science. The event took place in the campus room of Capstone House.

**Charles Bierbauer**, dean of the College of Mass Communication and Information Studies and former White House correspondent, moderated the panel, which included **Scott Buchanan**, professor of Political Science and the Executive Director of The Citadel Symposium on Southern Politics; **Scott Huffmon**, professor of Political Science as well as the Founder and Director of the Social & Behavioral Research Laboratory at Winthrop University; **Todd Shaw**, professor of Political Science and African-American Studies at the University of South Carolina; **David Woodard**, professor of Political Science at Clemson University; and **Warters**.



**JOHNSON**, chair of the Department of English, on comedic narrative and cycle of violence theory; **DR. PAMELA ROOKS** on masculinity in the Jeff Nichols' film *Mud*; **DR. REBECCA FLANNAGAN** on teaching Emerson and *The Hunger Games*; **DR. MEREDITH LOVE** on teaching with memes; **DR. LANCE WELDY** on Katniss Everdeen in the film *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*; and **DR. SHAWN MILLER** on the Daniel Woodrell novel *Give Us a Kiss*. A special evening session featured poet **DR. JO ANGELA EDWINS** reading from her collection *Embarrassing Ways to Die*. These English faculty were especially delighted to be joined in the conference by two alumnae, 2010 graduate Kimberly Turner, who presented her work on YOLO (or You Only Live Once) culture, and 2014 graduate Melody Knight Pritchard, who examined the influence of Mark Twain on the Jeff Nichols film *Mud*. ..

**DR. CRYSTAL HILL-CHAPMAN**, associate chair of Psychology, recently attained national board certification as a psychologist, through the American Board of Professional Psychologists (ABPP). The certification is typically reserved for practicing psychologists, and is rare in any event. There are just 4,000 board certified psychologists nationally, and fewer than 40 in the state of South Carolina. **HILL-CHAPMAN**, who received her undergraduate and master degrees from FMU, is also the coordinator for FMU's Clinical School Psychology program. ... **DR. EDDY HARDING** presented a paper on the use of darkness in three 19th-century German novellas at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association

## *FMU announces tenure and promotion of faculty*

FMU President Fred Carter awarded tenure and promotion of faculty members for the 2014-15 academic year.

Receiving promotions to professor are: **DR. FANGJUN A. ARROYO**, mathematics; **DR. PHILIP C. FULMER**, physics and astronomy; **DR. TIMOTHY E. SHANNON**, biology; and **DR. ANN M. STOECKMANN**, biology.

Receiving promotions to associate professor are: **DR. KENNETH M. ARAUJO**, business; **DR. BRANDON D. GOFF**, fine arts; **DR. HRISHIKESH J. GORADIA**, business; **DR. PAOLO A. GUALDI**, fine arts; **DR. SHAWN E. MILLER**, English, modern languages, and philosophy; **DR. JONATHAN G. MUNN**, business; **DR. NICHOLAS NEWMAN**, mathematics; **DR. HUBERT H. SETZLER**, business; **DR. YONG B. SHIN**, business; **ALLISON M. STEADMAN**, fine arts; **DR. NANCY L. ZAICE**, English, modern languages, and philosophy.

Earning tenure are: **DR. KENNETH M. ARAUJO**, business; **DR. BRANDON D. GOFF**, fine arts; **DR. HRISHIKESH J. GORADIA**, business; **DR. PAOLO A. GUALDI**, fine arts; **DR. SHAWN E. MILLER**, English, modern languages, and philosophy; **DR. JONATHAN G. MUNN**, business; **DR. NICHOLAS NEWMAN**, mathematics; **DR. CYNTHIA A. NIXON**, education; **DR. HUBERT H. SETZLER**, business; **DR. ELIZABETH SHARER**, business; **ALLISON M. STEADMAN**, fine arts; **DR. LOUIS E. VENTERS**, history.

convention in Atlanta, Georgia, in the fall, and is expected to present a paper on the possible influence of the *Book of Jeremiah* on the 9th-century Old High German poem "Das Ludwigslied" at the convention for the Philological Association of the Carolinas in Wilmington in March 2015. ... **DR. JENNIFER KUNKA**, professor of English and director of the FMU Writing Center, co-authored the recently released, 9th **EDITION OF THE Prentice Hall Reference Guide**. **KUNKA** was added as a collaborator for the 7th edition of the Guide. For the 8th and 9th edition she became a co-author. **KUNKA** also co-authored the 4th and 5th editions of *Writer's FAQ*. ... **MR. LYNN KOSTOFF's** novel, *Words to Die For*, has been accepted

for publication by New Pulp Press and will be released in late spring/early summer.

... **DR. PAOLO GUALDI**, associate professor of music, has just published his first solo album, *Franz List: Works for Solo Piano*. It's available through the online independent music story cdbaby.com, and at iTunes. ... **TIM HANSON**, chair of the Department of Mass Communications, continues to publish freelance stories in assorted general interest publications. His latest: a piece on female clay target shooters in *S.C. Life*, and a feature on the Darlington Raceway in *S.C. Living*. Both were published last summer. ...

**DR. ALISSA WARTERS**, associate professor of political science, delivered a paper at the Annual Meeting of the Popular Culture in the South/American Culture in the South Conference, held last fall in New Orleans, La., entitled "Michelle Obama and the Role of the Modern First Lady." ...

FMU Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta (The History Honors Society) has once again won

the Best Chapter Award in the Nation in their enrollment Division, beating out 622 other colleges and universities. This marks the fifth straight year FMU has received top honors. ...

**DR. JACKIE CAMPBELL**, associate professor of history, gave a public talk and an academic lecture last fall as part of a Civil War lecture series at UNC Pembroke. Her topic was, "Terrible has been the Storm: Sherman's Campaign through NC." .... An article by **DR. ELENA ESKRIDGE-KOSMACH**, associate professor of History, was published in the *Journal of Slavic Military Studies* in December 2014. It was entitled: "Russian Press and the Ideas of ...

...Continued on Page 26



JANIE WILLIAMS/FMU

## Stars, planets, students align

An unusual pairing of Astronomy and classical music was highlighted by the FMU Concert Band at the FMU Performing Arts Center this winter.

The program was entitled “A Musical Journey through the Solar System,” and the idea, said Jokisch, was to connect music and visual graphics through a piece of music that is a long-time favorite of Jokisch and many other classical music fans.

The band, led by Kelly Jokisch, performed selections from Gustav Holst’s famous “The Planets,” a seven-movement orchestral suite. The various movements, each a musical interpretation of a planet, were accompanied by visuals developed in Dr. Ginger Bryngelson’s FMU Honors Astronomy Class, “Our Place in Space.”

...Continued from page 25 ... ‘Yellow Peril’ and The Special mission of Russia in Asia.” ... **DR. CHRIS KENNEDY**, chair of FMU’s Department of History, has a book review and a comparative historical essay coming out in the upcoming edition of *New Perspectives on the Eighteenth Century*, this spring. ... An essay by **DR. SCOTT KAUFMAN**, professor of History, was published in the anthology, *Georgia Women: Their Histories*. The book is edited by Ann Short Chirhart and Kathleen Clark, and is published by the University of Georgia Press. Kaufman’s piece was on former first lady Roslynn Carter. ... **DR. MARY LOUISE NAGATA**, associate professor of History, participated in a workshop sponsored by the International Institute for Social History (IISH) in Amsterdam in December, where she presented a paper entitled, “Gender, Property Transfers, Labour Relations and the Family Firm in Early Modern

Kyoto.” ... **DR. LOUIS VENTERS**, assistant professor of History, will be presenting in a panel on “The Church and the Civil Rights Movement” at the Penn Symposium on Civil Rights, Penn Center, St. Helena Island, SC. ... **DR. JEREMIAH BARTZ**, assistant professor of Mathematics, co-authored a paper with S. Yuzvinsky entitled “Multinets in  $P^2$ ” which has been accepted to appear in *Experimental and Theoretical Methods in Algebra, Geometry and Topology, Proceedings in Mathematics & Statistics*. He also presented “Induced Multinets in  $P^2$ ” in Configuration Spaces: Geometry, Topology, and Representation Theory at Istituto Nazionale di Alta Matematica in Cortona, Italy this fall. ... **DR. SHARON O’KELLEY**, assistant professor of Mathematics, is expected to present “Writing in Mathematics: Finding a Voice” at the annual conference of The Association of Teacher Educators in Phoenix,

Arizona, in February. ... O’Kelley also served on the review panel for the Improving Teacher Quality grant program for the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. The grant is designed to fund partnerships between institutions of higher education and school districts for the professional development of teachers. Projects can be funded up to \$150,000.

... **DR. THOMAS FITZKEE**, chair of the Department of Mathematics, was a national judge of the Modeling Competition in Modeling (MCM) sponsored by the Consortium for Mathematics and its Applications (COMAP) in Carmel, CA, in March 2014. MCM is an international contest where teams of undergraduate students use mathematical modeling to present their solutions to real world problems. Dr. Fitzkee also taught, with Mrs. Vicki Carter from West Florence High School, an AP Calculus Summer Institute for Teachers. The institute, funded with a grant from the South Carolina Department of Education provides, certification to teach high school AP calculus. ...

**DR. GEORGE “BUCK” SCHNIBBEN**, **DR. JAMES RAMEY, JR.**, professor of Mathematics, and the aforementioned O’Kelley all delivered presentations at the 2014 South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference in Myrtle Beach. **DR. BILL WHITMIRE**, professor of Mathematics, is President Elect for South Carolina Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

**DR. TRACY GEORGE**, an instructor in the Department of Nursing, graduated from the Doctor of Nurse Practitioner program at the Medical University of South Carolina. ...

**DR. KAREN GITTINGS**, assistant professor of Nursing, was a presenter at the Student Nurses’ Association of SC’s 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual State Convention, in North Charleston. Giddings’ topic: “It takes practice to excel: Analyzing common dysrhythmias.” ... **DR. DEBORAH HOPLA**, assistant



GITTINGS



professor of Nursing, was a presenter at the South Carolina Nurses Association, State Convention, 21<sup>st</sup> Annual APRN Fall Pharmacology Conference in Hilton Head, SC. Her topic was, "Diabetes, A growing concern." ...

**VICKI MARTIN**, instructor in the Department of Nursing, co-authored an article entitled, "What's that sound? Alarm fatigue in Nursing," in *Nursing Made Incredibly Easy Magazine*. ...

**DR. RUTH WITTMANN-PRICE**, chair of the Department of Nursing, served as series editor for *Pediatric Nursing Test Success: An Unfolding Case Study Review*. Vickie Martin, a Nursing instructor at FMU, was a contributor to the work. Wittmann-Price also published *Impaired Emancipated decision-making* for Panamericana, NANDA International, Brazil. And, Wittmann-Price authored, co-authored four articles in professional journals. They included, "Feeding tolerance in preterm infants on noninvasive respiratory support," in *Journal of Perinatal Neonatal Nursing*; "An 8-week Externship Program Designed for Recruitment and Retention," in *Journal of Professional Development* (with Dr. Corey Remle, assistant professor of Sociology at FMU); "Creating a Culture of Accommodation Acceptance: Case by Case in Caputi, L. *Innovations in Nursing Education: Building the Future of Nursing*, Volume 2. Washington, DC: National League for Nursing. (peer reviewed publication); and "The relationship between personal knowledge and decision self-efficacy in choosing trial of labor after cesarean," *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*. The collaborative paper by Wittmann-Price and Remle was the result of a McNair Center grant that Drs. Remle and Wittmann-Price received in 2013. ...

**DR. WITTMANN-PRICE** and two members of the FMU Nursing faculty are among the chapter authors of *Review Manual for the Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator (CHSE) Exam*, just out from Springer Publishing. The book is a scholarly review for simulation lab educators preparing for the simulation certification exam. But it will likely also

...Continued on page 28



Dr. Meredith Love and Dr. Matt Nelson.

JANIE WILLIAMS/FMU

## *FMU selected as the home for new Center of Excellence*

*By Angela Crosland*

Preparing students for college and career is the goal of much of the public education system, but the new Center of Excellence for College and Career Readiness at Francis Marion University is designed to tackle that always challenging task with a particular student population.

The new center, the second COE placed at FMU by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, is designed to enhance college and career readiness for middle and high school students from across the state, but especially for those students associated with certain risk factors that have been shown to hinder their chances of attending a post-secondary educational institution. The center will operate a variety of programs that will train middle and high school teachers in techniques to better prepare those students, and it will also sponsor programs addressed at the students themselves.

FMU professor Dr. Meredith Love-Steinmetz, one of the center's co-directors, says the combination of specially trained teachers and an environment designed to foster educational aspirations will be a powerful tool for the state's children.

"We'd like to work with teachers and students in South Carolina to help students develop the mindsets

and skills that will prepare them to meet their goals after high school," says Love-Steinmetz. "Are more students believing that they can go to college? Do more students have the tools to attend college, if that's their choice?"

The CHE is funding the establishment of the new COE with an annual grant of \$250,000 in each of the next seven years. The grant will pay for staff for the center, for training and travel expenses for teachers and for research data collection and analysis that's already underway. The co-directors of the center are Dr. Love-Steinmetz and Dr. Matt Nelson, both of the English Department at Francis Marion.

Love-Steinmetz and Nelson will teach area teachers at the center. The first crop of teachers will, in turn, serve as the primary instructors at a new Eighth Grade Academy scheduled to begin in the Summer of 2015. The Academy will be housed at FMU.

Nelson and Love-Steinmetz will work with other FMU professors and faculty members from universities and technical colleges to spread the Center's work and influence statewide.

Francis Marion University is already the home of The Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty. 

*Angela Crosland is Director of Communications at Francis Marion University.*

# School of Education moves graduate programs online

**F**rancis Marion University's School of Education has joined the online era in higher ed instruction.

The School's three graduate level degrees, the Master of Education in Learning Disabilities (LD), the Master of Arts in LD (M.A.T.-LD), and the LD Instructional Accommodation programs, are now available as (mostly) online courses.

It's the culmination of several years of work and a desire to move smoothly from traditional classroom education to the kind of online offerings that advanced degree seekers in many disciplines have come to expect. Most of FMU's graduate offerings are now available online. The School of Business launched an online MBA program this spring and the Department of Nursing's graduate programs have been online since inception a few years ago.

Dr. Shirley Carr Bausmith,

Dean of the School of Education, says new online programs are what working educators want. By offering the degrees in this manner, FMU is meeting a need within a need.


"This is how teachers and educators have told us they want

the courses delivered," says Bausmith. "So there was that need. And then there is the need for these programs. There's a tremendous local shortage, and a national shortage, of teachers in the special education area."

The Francis Marion program addresses several needs. Licensed LD teachers are needed to teach in highly specialized LD classrooms. But Bausmith and Dr. Tracy Meetze,

Director of Graduate Programs for the School of Education, say teachers in traditional classes are signing up in droves for the courses as well. Among the regular participants are recruits from South Carolina's Teach for America office.

"They want this same knowledge, just to help them with students who might be on the border of this designation," says Meetze. "Students who simply exhibit some tendencies (towards learning problems) can be a real challenge to teach. Instruction is needed to help with divergent, or non-traditional learning, too." The Instructional Accommodation (IA) program and the two Learning Disabilities programs share some classes. The Master of Education program does require that students be licensed teachers. The bulk of the classwork in both programs is online. The entire IA program is online, while students in the two LD programs meet on five Saturdays during the given semester to complete the capstone course. Because the M.A.T.-LD is an initial licensure program, the last semester includes the student teaching block. Both programs can be completed in about a year.

"This is about meeting the teachers where they are in life," says Bausmith. "They need quality programs that are convenient and that deliver instruction that they can apply in their classrooms on a daily basis. Now we can do that." 



**MEETZE**



**BAUSMITH**

...Continued from page 27

...says **WITTMANN-PRICE**. She served as editor of the book, along with Dr. Linda Wilson, assistant dean for special projects, simulation and continuing nursing education accreditation at Drexel University. **WITTMANN-PRICE** wrote one chapter in the book and co-authored three others. One of the co-authored chapters, "Special Learning Considerations in Simulation," was written in conjunction with **CRYSTAL GRAHAM**, instruction and simulation coordinator for FMU's Department of Nursing. A chapter entitled "Planning Simulation Activities," was written by **DR. KAREN GITTINGS**, assistant professor of Nursing. ... Wittmann-Price also published a chapter in *Pronanda*, a guide to diagnosis for Brazilian nurses. The chapter detailed Wittmann-Price's Theory of Emancipated Decision-making in Women's Healthcare. The theory was already published, but this is the first time it's been published in a foreign journal or that Wittmann-Price has been published in a foreign journal. The guide was in Portuguese. ...

**DR. JESSICA BURKE**, assistant professor of Sociology, presented the paper, "Psychological Distress among Black-White Interracial and Intra-racial Relationships," at the Association of Black Sociologists annual meeting in Charlotte, NC. ... **DR. LISA A. EARGLE** (and Dr. Ashraf Esmail of Dillard University) received a contract from Green Legacy Publishing Company to write the book, *Revival, Redemption, Recovery and Resilience: The Gulf Coast 10 Years After Hurricane Katrina*. The expected completion date for the book is late 2015. Dr. Eargle has been asked to write the Foreword for three different book manuscripts: *Bridging the Gap: A Look at the Relationship of Minority Communities*



and *Police Relations* by Catina Hightower; *Professional Development in Community Corrections: A Case Study* by Raymond M. Delaney, Jr.; and *A Critical Assessment of Technical Violations in Criminal Justice: A Probationer's Perspective* by Julius C. Trimble. These books are forthcoming from Green Legacy Publishing Company. ... **DR. RUSSELL E. WARD, JR.**, professor of Sociology, is currently administering citizen satisfaction surveys for the Florence County Sheriff's Office. This project is jointly funded by the Robert E. McNair Center for Research and Service and the Professional Development Committee at Francis Marion University. ...



JOKISCH

**DR. DEREK JOKISCH**, associate professor of Physics, has accepted a joint appointment with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). **JOKISCH** will be part of a six-

person team focusing on revising United States law related to acceptable radiation dosage in the workplace and beyond. The team will use computational dosimetry to determine acceptable amounts of radiation in the environment. **JOKISCH** will be in residence at ORNL during the summer, and on breaks. He'll collaborate remotely the rest of the year. ... An article by **DR. LARRY ENGELHARDT**, associate professor of Physics, was published in the November 2014 edition of *American Journal of Physics*. This article is titled "Simple and synergistic ways to understand the Boltzmann distribution function." **DR. ENGELHARDT** is the lead author on this paper, which includes coauthors from the University of St. Thomas (Minnesota) and Yale University (Connecticut). ... An article by **DR. GINGER BRYNGELSON**, assistant professor of Physics and Astronomy, has been accepted for publication in the *Astrophysical Journal*. The article is titled, "Early Observations and Analysis of the Type Ia SN

2014J in M82," and relates to work performed by **BRYNGELSON** and others observing a new supernovae in the winter of 2013-14. ... The Physics & Astronomy department hosted 40 high school students (Juniors and Seniors) for the 12th annual South Carolina Engineering and Physics Scholars Institute on Nov. 20 – 22. Around 20 FMU physics and engineering students led experiments for the high school students. ... **DR. LORNA CINTRON-GONZALEZ**, assistant professor of Industrial Engineering, won an International Collaboration Grant for travel to Germany to meet with faculty to establish an international exchange program for Industrial Engineering students. Plans are to have this in place for the Fall of 2017....

**BERNADETTE JOHNSON**, reference librarian at FMU's James Rogers Library, published "Academic Library Outreach to Minority Students: The Role the Library Plays in Meeting the Needs of Minority Students at Francis Marion University" in the journal *South Carolina Libraries*, Fall 2014 issue. ... **TAMMY IVINS**, head of reference at the Rogers Library, wrote "Upcycling MSLS Coursework into Publishable Content" for *Endnotes: The Journal of the New Members Round Table*, June 2014 issue. **IVINS** also participated in panels at the 2014 American Library Association Conference.

## SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

**DR. MICHAEL P. HUGHES**, associate professor of Finance in the FMU School of Business, made presentations at two recent national conferences. Hughes presented "The Effect of Monetary Policy Announcements on the Debt and Equity Markets," at 78<sup>th</sup> International Atlantic Economic Conference; and he presented, "Zero-Bound Monetary Policy's Effect on Financial Asset's Correlations," at The International Academy of Business and Public Administration Disciplines. The second presentation

was in conjunction with an academic colleague. ... **DR. NEIL RILEY**, professor of Finance in the FMU School of Business, published "Short-term Prediction of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) using Logistic Regression Generated Client Risk Profiles," in the *Journal of Finance and Accountancy*, Vol. 14. ...

## SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

**THE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE** to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty was honored with the 2014 *Dick and Tunky Riley What Works SC Award for Excellence* last fall. The competitive award included a cash prize. ... **DR. JEFF LEE**, professor of Education, and **DR. ERIK LOWRY**, associate professor of Education, presented a paper at the Southeastern Regional Association of Teacher Educators (SRATE) 61st annual conference at Wild Dunes. In their presentation, "Bridging the Gap Between Preparation and Practice" they elaborated on how elementary and middle level teacher candidates at Francis Marion University learn teaching techniques in courses where both the professor and the candidate work together with students in local elementary schools. ...

**DR. TAMMY PAWLOSKI**, professor of Education, was the keynote speaker at the Carolina Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (CTESOL) Annual Conference in Wilmington, N.C. last fall. Pawloski's topic: "Challenges and opportunities: Why poverty matters and why teachers and schools matter more." ... **DR. CLAUDIA WANG**, assistant professor of Education, presented at two conferences last summer. She presented, "Improve quality of sleep for mind-body health," at Triangle Smarttalk at Duke University in Durham, N.C.; and "Great success starts from a healthy lifestyle at a young age," at Tai Shan Miao Elementary School in Sheqi, Henan Province, P.R. China. 🌐

# Sigma Theta Tau chartered

A new honor society took its place on the Francis Marion University campus last fall when Sigma Theta Tau International, the world's largest nursing honor society, established the Chi Lambda chapter at FMU.

Dr. Nancy Sharts-Hopko, treasurer of Sigma Theta Tau international, came to FMU to take part in the chartering ceremony. More than 40 new members were inducted into the new FMU chapter. The inductees included student members of FMU's current nursing honor society, and more than a dozen current members of Sigma Theta Tau – mostly FMU nursing faculty – who transferred their memberships.

The FMU chapter's first slate of officers include: Dr. Karen Gittings, President; Susan Grubbs, Counselor; Dr. Tracy George, Vice President; Darlene Fulton, Treasurer; and Tasha Broach, Secretary. Lynn Kennedy and Dr. Deborah Hopla will form the nucleus of the chapter's first board of directors.

Gittings, a member of FMU's nursing faculty, was instrumental in establishing the new chapter. Work began more than a year ago.

Membership in Sigma Theta Tau is based on a student maintaining a high grade point average and class rank.

Sigma Theta Tau was formed in 1922. It has more than 490 chapters in 90 different countries and territories, and boasts more than 130,000 members.



Dr. Ruth Wittman-Price congratulates Sigma Theta Tau inductee Natalie Whitefield.

JANIE WILLIAMS/FMU

## HULL IS FIRST HEAD OF NEW PA PROGRAM

James F. "Chip" Hull is the first Program Director for Francis Marion University's new Physician Assistant program.

Hull will shepherd the new program through its lengthy, provisional accreditation process, hire its faculty and recruit its first class of students. FMU's first PA class is expected to enroll in the fall of 2016.

The PA program will be one of several healthcare programs housed at the new FMU Health Sciences Complex in downtown Florence. The first class is expected to begin its 27-month course of study when the HSC opens in the fall of 2016. Work on the 50,000-square foot complex is scheduled to begin in early 2015 (see story page 4).

Hull, a PA himself, is a veteran educator, administrator and practitioner with more than 25 years of experience in the area of mid-level healthcare practice. He comes to FMU from the Southern Regional Area Health Education Center (SR-AHEC), a teaching



DR JOE GRIFFIN AND FAMILY

## ON CAMPUS

healthcare center affiliated with Duke University and located in Fayetteville, N.C.

## FMU RANKED AMONG BEST OF THE SOUTH

For the 14<sup>th</sup> year in a row, Francis Marion University has been ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* magazine as one of the South's best regional universities. The honor appeared in *USN&WR*'s annual college ranking publication last fall.

FMU is listed among regional university schools that provide a full range of undergraduate majors, as well as master's programs. The 572 universities in this category are ranked against members of their peer group in one of four geographic regions—North, South, Midwest, and West—because, in general, they tend to draw students most heavily from a regional geography. It is the largest category of the four *U.S. News* classifications.

*U.S. News* categorizes colleges and universities primarily by mission and in some cases, region, using data in 15 indicators of academic excellence. The indicators used to capture academic quality fall into six categories: academic reputation through peer assessment, retention of students, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving. The ranking formula gives greatest weight to academic reputation.

## GRIFFIN RECEIVES BIOLOGY ALUMNI AWARD

Dr. Joe L. Griffin Jr. ('81), owner of Advanced Dental Center in Florence, was honored by Francis Marion University's Department of Biology with the Lawrence Swails Award during a reception last fall



on the FMU campus.

The Swails Award honors distinguished alumni who earned degrees in Biology. It's named after the second chairperson of the FMU Biology Department. This is the ninth year the Biology Department has held this recognition of an outstanding graduate of the biology program.

Griffin graduated from FMU (College) in 1981 with a B.S. degree in biology and earned the D.M.D. degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1985. He founded Advanced Dental Center in 1994, where he serves more than 5,000 dental patients a year. Griffin is chairman of the annual free dental day in Florence, "Dentistry from the Heart." The Florence native is a recipient of the Palmetto Patriot public service award given by the Lieutenant Governor.

## **PSYCHOLOGY HONORS ALUMS ELKINS, FULLER**

Francis Marion University alumni Jennifer F. Elkins ('95, '98) and Melinda Fuller ('95, '98) were honored with Professional Psychology Awards at a Psychology alumni reception at FMU this fall.

Elkins provides counseling services and supervision for LPC Interns/ Supervisor Candidates/ Play Therapist candidates at her private practice, Palmetto Family Works, LLC in Florence. Additionally, she supervises a variety of student placements for area colleges, including an annual graduate student internship for FMU, and is an adjunct faculty member at FMU. She earned the bachelor's degree in psychology in 1995...

...Continued on page 33

A photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a dark, sequined dress, playing a violin. She is looking down at the instrument with a focused expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

## **Third time should be charming for S.C. Chamber Music Festival**

The South Carolina Chamber Music Festival at Francis Marion University turns 3 this year, and like any 3-year-old, it is growing.

Dr. Paolo Gualdi, assistant professor of music in FMU's Music Industry program and the festival's director, says this year's edition will be longer (7 days) and will feature events held at four different locations. The event is set to run Feb. 22-28.

Gualdi says the 2015 festival will feature "everything from traditional classical music to fusion of Eastern European folk and classical music (Balkan Quartet), and even Gypsy Jazz (Velvet Caravan).

"It should be quite an interesting event, a fantastic event," says Gualdi.

The festival is the brainchild of Gualdi and a product of his own experience as an accomplished pianist and chamber musician. He's played in similar events around the world. While discussing how much he enjoyed those events with a colleague, the colleague observed that Gualdi should bring a festival to FMU. Voilà, the S.C. Chamber Music Festival was born.

The festival's home will once again be

the Experimental Black Box Theater at the FMU Performing Arts Center, but as Gualdi noted, events will also be held off site. The festival will once again play at the Bean Market in Lake City. It will open at the Art Trail Gallery, near the PAC in downtown Florence, and one session will also be held at FMU's new downtown recording studio. That facility is scheduled to open in January (see story page 34).

As usual, Gualdi and talent from amongst the FMU faculty will be part of the program, as will the usual group of talented guest performers from afar, rounded up by Gualdi via his worldwide contacts. This year's guest musicians will include: Serbian violinist Sinisa Ciric, Ukrainian pianist Irinia Pevzner, Venezuelan violinist Richardo Ochoa, and Serbian cellist Dusan Vukajlovic. Joining the usual cast of Music Industry faculty from FMU will be Terris Roberts (son of FMU's Dr. Terry Roberts) and pianist Sumire Worman.

Tickets to festival events are available through the FMU Performing Arts Center.

## CAMPUS VIEW, FALL 2014



JANIE WILLIAMS/FMU

**Members of FMU's classes of '92, '93, and '94 gathered for a reunion last fall, which included a brief visit with the general.**



JEFF SMITH/FMU

**Lyle Lovett wowed a big crowd at the PAC in late August.**



REBECCA DUCKER/FMU

**Instructor Blane McCracken ('04) guides students during a physics lab.**



JANIE WILLIAMS/FMU

**Author Ron Carlson talks with a student at the 2014 Pee Dee Poetry and Fiction Festival at Francis Marion.**



REBECCA DUCKER/FMU

**Graduate nursing students practice the suturing skills on pigs feet.**



...Continued from page 31  
and the master's degree in applied clinical/community psychology in 1998 from FMU. Elkins earned the Ed. D. in counseling psychology from Argosy University in 2013.

Fuller is a licensed professional counselor (LPC) and LPC supervisor in private practice in Florence and an adjunct instructor in the graduate program at FMU. Prior to entering the private sector full-time, Fuller worked with Florence School District One, The Counseling Center of Florence, Pee Dee Mental Health Center, Pee Dee Palmetto Behavioral Health, and Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Assault.

Fuller received the bachelor's degree in psychology in 1995 and the master's degree in applied clinical/community psychology in 1998 from FMU. She also received advanced training in cognitive-behavioral therapy, which has helped her to address behavioral problems in children and adolescents as well as anxiety, depression, and other issues across all age groups.

## GRIMSBY GIFT ENDOWS CHAIRS, SCHOLARSHIPS

The late Margaret McLamb Grimsby of Florence wasn't a Francis Marion University alumnus, but she was certainly an FMU fan.

Folks who didn't know that before McLamb passed away know it now.

The trust she set up before her death made a \$1 million-plus donation to the university last fall.

The Margaret McLamb Grimsby Trust's \$1,022,039.67 gift will establish the Margaret

McLamb Grimsby and Eva Bradford Endowed Chair in Industrial



(L to R) Venters, Updegrove, Warters, Cosby, Edwards and Fowler

JANIE WILLIAMS/FMU

## Remembering Lyndon B. Johnson, Civil Rights Act

**FMU commemorated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, one of the most important pieces of legislation in U.S. History, when it brought Mark K. Updegrove, director of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library, to campus last fall for a special symposium.**

**Updegrove, a renowned journalist and American presidential scholar, highlighted the event entitled "The Civil Rights Act at 50: A Legacy Remembered." Updegrove was a particularly appropriate keynote speaker because of President Johnson's pivotal role in the passage of the Civil Rights Act. The event was sponsored by FMU's Robert E. McNair Center for Research and Service, and by FMU's African American Faculty and Staff Coalition.**

**Besides Updegrove's presentation, the event also featured a three-person panel discussion on the Civil Rights Act featuring Don Fowler, a professor of political science of the University of South Carolina and former chairman of the Democratic National Committee; Teresa Cosby, J.D., professor of political science at Furman University; and Jonathan Edwards, J.D., counsel at FMU. Dr. Louis Venters, assistant professor of history at FMU, moderated the panel discussion.**



GRIMSBY

Engineering, and the Margaret McLamb Grimsby and Eva Bradford Scholarship.

Eva Bradford was a long-time friend of Grimsby's, who took the young woman under her wing during Grimsby's formative years after she and her family moved to Sumter. Bradford passed away more than 50 years ago.

Kyle McLamb, Grimsby's grand-nephew, said his great aunt always

believed in the value of higher education and wanted to give back to the Florence community she called home for so many years. He said endowing an academic chair and a scholarship are a perfect fit for Aunt Margaret's lifetime fiscal philosophy.

"She did not live extravagantly and she didn't throw her money away," says McLamb. "This gift has..."

...Continued on page 34

...Continued from page 33

...been a long time in the making. She always viewed it as a great investment, and she always believed in higher education. It was important to her and she always said that education was your brass ring that no one could ever take from you."

The Grimsby-Bradford Scholarship is designed to assist a broad spectrum of future FMU students. Recipients must maintain a grade point average of 2.5 or higher and must have a demonstrated financial need.

Residents of the Pee Dee will be given preference in receiving the awards. Scholarships will be given annually, but repeat awards are allowed.

The Grimsby-Bradford Chair will support new or existing faculty in FMU's brand new Industrial Engineering program. Support for an engineering chair is particularly appropriate since Margaret Grimsby's late husband, Walter J. Grimsby, was a professional civil engineer.

## NEW STARS UNVEILED AT DOOLEY PLANETARIUM

The planetarium, housed in the Cauthen Educational Media Center on campus, begins 2015 with a brand new, state-of-the-art Digistar 5 projection system.

The new equipment comes courtesy of a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) grant won last year by Florence's Science South Museum, in conjunction with FMU and the Dooley Planetarium. The grant paid for the new, Evans & Sutherland "Digistar 5" system, along with other improvements. The new system replaces the planetarium's 36-year-old star projector.

The new system can present star fields and other astronomy-related phenomena on the planetarium's interior dome, just like the old Spitz 512 Projector System could. But it can move from program to program more quickly, and has numerous added features, such as animation, movement and interactivity. For instance, the opening show using the new system, Two Small Pieces of Glass, is an experience that combines a 360-degree immersive full dome movie with interactive demonstrations.

The new system allows for the display of a variety of additional images, including direct feeds from NASA.

The grant that paved the way for the renovation came from NASA's Competitive Program for Science Museums, Planetariums and NASA Visitor Centers Plus Other Opportunities (CP4SMPVC).

Florence's ScienceSouth, a school-oriented outreach center, was one of 10 informal education institutions in the nation to receive funding in the latest grant cycle. The grants went to institutions with proposals to attract more students to careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). NASA announced the \$780,275 grant in January 2014. More than half of the ScienceSouth award was used for the Dooley uplift. Dooley will, in turn, host an ongoing series of programs for ScienceSouth.

The remainder of the grant will be used to fund new outreach programming at the Florence science center over the next three years. FMU and ScienceSouth have worked together for years on science outreach programs, including programs at the Dooley Planetarium.

Although the Spitz projector has left FMU, it didn't leave for the scrap heap. FMU donated the device to the South Carolina State Museum which put it on display as an example of the technology once employed in planetariums.

The FMU Planetarium opened its doors in 1978. In 2000, with the passing of its first director, FMU chemistry professor Ed Dooley, it was officially named, Dooley Planetarium. 🌌



## PATRIOT STUDIOS

Francis Marion University's new recording studio in downtown Florence is set to open this spring. The 15,544 square foot building on Warley Street is a former medical practice that was donated to the university. It's been renovated and will be used as both a training center for students in FMU's Fine Arts and Music Industry programs, and as an actual commercial recording studio, available for hire by outside groups and individuals. Dr. Terry Roberts, coordinator for the Music Industry program, says the new studio will offer professionals in the area a facility not currently available. He also called it a "major advance" for students in the Music Industry program.







JONES



OWENS

ON  
CAMPUS

## Staff Honors

Francis Marion University employees recognized their own last summer when they honored four of their colleagues at the annual staff awards luncheon. In addition to the regular awards, two new honors – created at the behest of President Fred Carter – were introduced. A cash prize accompanies each of the honors. Recipients are nominated by their colleagues and selected by a committee made up of faculty designates and past winners. Here's a look at the staffers honored for 2014-15:

**Employee of the Year: Verneeda Jones.** Jones is a member of the custodial services team.

**Employee of the Year: Sherry Owens.** Owens is an administrative assistant in the Department of Physics and Astronomy.

**Marvin Lynch Humanitarian Award: Angie Bessenger.** Bessenger is an administrative assistant for Institutional Technology and Electronic Media Services. The brand new Marvin Lynch Humanitarian Award, one of the two new awards instituted this year, recognizes a staff member who exhibits an unusual commitment to, and care for, his fellow man, both at work and elsewhere. Bessenger has been employed by the university for 14 years.

**John J. Kispert Leadership Award: Rannie Gamble.** Gamble has been employed with the university for 31 years and is the administrative manager for the Provost's Office. The newly created Kispert Leadership Award pays tribute to staff members who are not in formal leadership positions, but who exhibit the drive, determination and initiative to embrace the mission of their departments and to inspire their colleagues to a higher standard.



BESSENGER



GAMBLE

# FMU's All-American Guy

*Thirty-five years later, the only men's basketball All-American in Patriot history is still on target.*

BY BRITTNEY PARKER KING '12

It's pretty rare when a person's childhood interests develop into actual careers and pursuits. For most of us, the dreams of being a fireman, a princess, a cowboy, or an astronaut dissolve in the reality of adulthood.

The case of Dr. Robert Moore ('80) is a little bit different.

All of his dreams came true and all the childhood interests fostered while growing up in Cheraw, eventually became a significant part of Moore's adult life. A young boy who was interested in sports, law enforcement, guns, and medicine – a next-door neighbor was a family practitioner – became an All-American basketball player, a part-time deputy and SWAT team member, the owner of a gun range, and an accomplished orthopaedic surgeon. Moore is the head of Florence's Hand Surgery Associates, a practice he founded several years ago.

"It's worked out pretty well," says Moore.

Moore credits no small part of his life's accomplishments to the time he spent at Francis Marion University, where classmates and old FMU hands may best remember him for his exploits on the basketball court. The 6-6 Moore played three seasons at FMU, after playing his freshman year

at Baptist College. He led the Patriots to three NAIA District 6 playoff appearances, and single-season marks for points (592) and

rebounds (291) during his senior season that still stand. Moore was named to the NAIA All-America Second Team that year. He's the only





FMU men's basketball player to be named to an All-America team.

Moore recalls his basketball days fondly.

"We had a good team then, and the Florence community really supported our basketball team," Moore says. "If you didn't get to the game by the time it started, it was hard to get a seat. It was incredible, the fan support that we had . . . And there were no students living on campus then, but there were hundreds and hundreds of students who came to the game; it was just packed with students."

## A 'GOOD DECISION'

Moore's love for sports developed early. He played "all three of the typical sports – baseball, basketball, and football" growing up, and says he was actually better at baseball than basketball.

"I was probably a better high school baseball player than I was basketball player," says Moore, "but I enjoyed basketball more and had a chance to go and play in college, so it was a good decision."

More than just basketball fell into place for Moore at FMU. His decision to transfer to the then, still-new college in Florence unknowingly led him directly to his future wife, Betsey, and firmed up his career choice.

Moore met his wife Betsey in a physics class they shared, and if it wasn't love at first sight, it was pretty close. Robert and Betsey were a couple through college and married while Moore was in medical school.

During Moore's last two years at FMU, he also had the opportunity to

work with Dr. Lorin Mason, a Florence orthopedist (now retired) who helped take care of the school's athletes. Mason let Moore, the basketball star and aspiring physician, observe as he made his rounds.

Moore was leaning towards medicine even while in high school, due in large part to his doctor neighbor in Cheraw. Moore says that "just watching what (the neighbor) did and how he helped people really interested me."

Shadowing Dr. Mason at FMU confirmed Moore's post-graduate career plans and pushed him towards orthopedics. He refined his interests early in his career at The Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

"One of the first classes you take is Gross Anatomy ... just dissecting the hand and studying (its) anatomy; I became interested in the hand," Moore said. "I thought I would probably do sports medicine because of my past experience in sports, but I really became interested in the hand in medical school."

After he completed his first four years of medical school, Moore and his wife moved to Memphis, TN, while he completed a five-year orthopedic residency. Moore completed a decade of medical training with a six-month-long hand surgery fellowship at the University of Virginia.

## HOMEWARD BOUND

Then, after that medical education tour of the South, it was back home. The Moore's moved to the town where they fell in love.

"We'd always planned on coming back to Florence...we like Florence," Moore says. "Florence is a good-sized town. I think it's a great town to raise your family, and there are a lot of things to do – more and more now with the way things have grown in the last few years."

Moore's Florence career began at Pee Dee Orthopedics. He practiced there until he opened his own practice, Hand Surgery Associates, 14 years later. Moore said managing his own practice has allowed him to pursue

his other interests, which include missionary work and the fulfillment of many lifelong interests.

Moore opened another business, Palmetto Defensive Training, in 2009. It's a training center that teaches citizens how to properly fire a weapon, and the ins and outs of handgun defense. PDT offers two-to-three weekend classes per month.

"Unfortunately," says Moore, "there's more and more crime in society and home invasions, and I think people just need to be able to know how to and be prepared to defend themselves."

Like most everything else in his life, Moore's interest in guns is long standing, although he didn't grow up as a shooter or a hunter. His dad, a typically close-mouthed veteran of World War II, wouldn't have it.

"I've always had an interest in guns, but I didn't really grow up with guns," Moore says. "My dad was on the front lines in WWII, and I remember him saying as I was growing up that there were two things we're not going to do: 'we're not going to have guns, and we're not going to go camping,' the latter because he'd slept on the ground more than he wanted to. And that's about all he would say about WWII."

Moore's boyhood interest in law enforcement also led him to join the Florence County Sheriff's Office's Reserve Deputy program several years ago. He volunteers at least 20 hours a month (mainly on weekends) with FCSO as a reserve deputy. He also serves as the medical director for the FCSO Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team.

"I've always had an interest in law enforcement," Moore said.

Moore and his wife still reside in Florence with their Boykin Spaniel, Dixie. Their daughter lives in North Carolina with her husband while she completes her anesthesiology residency, and their son attends Clemson University. He's a senior, majoring in political science.

*Brittany Parker King ('12) works as a marketing consultant for Miller Communications.* 📞



FMU ARCHIVES

Dr. Robert Moore (left) examines a patient at his Florence office. During the 1979-80 season, Moore (above) was an all-American basketball player at FMU, who led the team in scoring and rebounding.



COACH GARY EDWARDS STEERING THE PATRIOTS TO VICTORY.

FMU ATHLETICS

## PATRIOTS' EDWARDS EARNS 500<sup>TH</sup> VICTORY

Check off another milestone in the long and storied career of Francis Marion University Men's Basketball Coach Gary Edwards.

Edwards, heading into his ninth season at the helm of the FMU program, notched his 500<sup>th</sup> career win earlier this season when the Patriots beat Lenoir-Rhyne 61-53 in the Peach Belt Conference-South Atlantic Conference tournament in Salisbury, N.C.

Through the December portion of the current season, Edwards has an overall mark of 508-369. He's won 118 at FMU.

## MORGAN IS NEW LEADER OF WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM

Women's soccer at Francis Marion University has a new face and it belongs to Lindsey Morgan.

Morgan, the lead assistant coach at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. for the past four seasons,

was named head coach in December. She succeeds Frank Pitt who guided the program for the past three seasons. FMU, which competes as an NCAA Division I independent, posted a 3-12-1 record this fall.

Morgan spent four seasons at ASU. She served as an assistant coach at Stephen F. Austin University in 2010.

Morgan is a graduate of Columbus State University, where she earned a B.A. degree in communication. She served as team captain of the Cougars' squad for three seasons – all of which resulted in a Peach Belt Conference championship and an NCAA Tournament appearance. She helped CSU to the national quarterfinals in

both 2007 and 2008. Her four-year playing record at CSU was 74-17-5. She was a NSCAA All-Region selection as a senior.

## SOFTBALL TEAMS HOSTS 'SENIOR' PROM

Francis Marion University's softball team was host to a "senior prom" for residents of several, Florence-area retirement communities this winter. The prom was the idea of FMU Softball Coach Stacey Vallee. It was a first for the team.

FMU Assistant Coach Leslie Hensley said the players loved hearing the residents talk about their experiences and accomplishments in life.

"I think our girls found that everyone loves a good prom and a reason to dance," says Hensley. "It was a great night of food, fun, old and new friends, and memories I'm sure no one will soon forget."

## IT'S THE BEST DRAFT EVER FOR FMU SOCCER

Francis Marion University men's soccer team participated in its first

player "draft" this fall.

Everyone went home a winner when the Patriots selected four-year-old Maddox Daniel with their first and only selection.

The unique draft event was put together by FMU, with help from Team IMPACT, a Boston-based charity that connects sick children with local colleges and their sports teams.



MADDOX

Daniel Maddox is a Korean native who was adopted by David and Tracey Daniel of Florence. They noticed several delays in his development, and sought medical care. Maddox was eventually diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). DMD is similar to other forms of Muscular Dystrophy, in that it is (currently) incurable, and it results in the deterioration of muscles over time. It mostly affects males.

Maddox's wish, granted by FMU, was to join a soccer team.

Murray G. Hartzler, FMU director of athletics, said that while adding Maddox to the FMU roster was certainly a dream come true for the young man, it produced a powerful impact for FMU athletes, too. "Among other things," says Hartzler, "it reinforces the idea that the student athletes shouldn't take their life, and their abilities, for granted."

Maddox attended games and practices with the Patriots all season. He is non-verbal, due to his illness, but the Patriot players and coaches quickly established a rapport.

Maddox's mom, Tracey, says the connection with the team has "been a really big blessing for us."

## PATRIOTS PILE UP ACADEMIC HONORS

More than 90 student-athletes were named to the Swamp Fox Athletic-Academic Honor Roll for the 2014 fall semester, meaning they posted at least a 3.0 grade point average or higher. Nineteen former FMU students-athletes earned degrees at the December 2014 commencement.





## SOCCER

Record: 12-4-2

Peach Belt Finish: 5-2-2 (3rd)

Top performers/post-season honors:

Sophomore goalkeeper Mike Warn earned All-Conference and All-Region honors after setting a school record for shutouts (9). Warn was a first-team All-Conference selection, while junior midfielder Sven Ricke and sophomore defender Jeremy Bonyaa were second-team All-PBC picks. Warn, Ricke, Michael Eibl, Shahin Hemat, Benjamin Kwast, and David Sheridan earned conference All-Academic Team honors.

Notable: The Patriots were nationally ranked for one week this season, received votes in two other Top 25 polls, and narrowly missed earning a bid to the NCAA national tournament. Coach John Campbell has improved the Patriots' win total in each of his three seasons.

### Women's Soccer

Record: 3-12-1

NCAA Division I Independents

Top performers/post-season honors:

Seven Patriots were named to the Independent All-Conference Team as selected by College Sports Madness. Senior Elizabeth Asare, the team's leading scorer, was named the Offensive Player of the Year for Division I independent programs, while Chanel Harris, Kelly Anthony, and Tori Whigham earned first-team honors. Selected to the second-team were Brittney Smith, Kristyn Leung, and Arianna Pierner.

Notable: Six of the team's final seven matches were decided by one goal.



## GOLF

Record: Tournament Play

NCAA Division I Independents

Top performers/post-season honors:

Senior Lukas Crisp led the Patriots during the 2014 fall season with a 74.18 stroke average, including three sub-par rounds.

Notable: The Patriots will play in seven events during the 2015 spring season, including hosting the Wexford Plantation Intercollegiate Tournament on Hilton Head Island, Feb. 23-24.



## VOLLEYBALL

Record: 9-20

Peach Belt Finish: 5-13 (8th)

Top performers/post-season honors: Junior Alexzandra

Reed led FMU in kills per set (3.92) and was second in digs (2.52), while sophomore Caroline Boone hit at a team-best .265 attack percentage and senior setter Sloane Shank handed out 8.94 assists per set. Junior libero Jessica Amador paced FMU in digs (4.52 per set) and total service aces (36). Boone and senior Brianna West both earned PBC All-Academic Team honors.

Notable: FMU played without the services of returning All-Conference performer Emily Sears, who missed the entire season with an injury.



## CROSS COUNTRY

Record: Competes in large meets

Peach Belt Finish: 10th at championship meet

Top performers/post-season honors:

Freshman Devin Nelson led the Patriot runners in all five meets in 2014, while freshman Javier Bustos Jaimes was continually the second FMU finisher. Nelson placed 41st at the conference meet (fastest 8k time for a Patriot true freshman in 13 seasons) and 54th at the NCAA regional meet, and has a chance to earn Academic All-Region recognition. Nelson won the FMU Invitational Meet and helped the Patriots to the team title.

Notable: In four of five meets, freshmen occupied the top three finishing positions for Francis Marion.

The Patriots placed 10th at the Peach Belt Conference Championship Meet.

### Women's Cross Country

Record: Competes in large meets

Peach Belt Finish: 10th at championship meet

Top performers/post-season honors: Junior Megan Wright, a Florence native, was the top Patriot finisher in every meet of 2014. In addition to setting school marks for both 5,000 and 6,000-meters, she earned All-Conference and All-Region honors and narrowly missed out on a berth to the NCAA Division II national meet. Sophomores Nicole Edlmann and Emmeline Wheeler both garnered Peach Belt All-Academic Team recognition.

Notable: The Patriots placed 10th at the Peach Belt Conference Championship Meet. Following Wright, FMU's next four finishers at the conference meet were all freshmen.



**Knight**



**Harley**



**Hill-Chapman**



**Gause**

## Nineteen **70s**

**Joyce Durant ('73)** was honored by the Florence Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction in May 2014.

**Frances Parker ('74)** was named Carver Elementary School's 2014 Teacher of the Year. Carver is in Florence School District 4.

**Karen Brown ('77, '93)** joined the Williamsburg Academy Faculty as a 10th and 11th grade math teacher in August 2014.

**Rainey Knight ('77)** delivered the December commencement address at Coker College and was the recipient of an honorary degree from the school. Knight is the former superintendent of the Darlington County (S.C.) Schools. She is an educational consultant in South Carolina and the southeast region.

**Cathy Fox ('79, '83)** has retired after 11 years employment with the State of South Carolina and 20 years with the State of Florida in 2014.

**C. Ernie Nivens ('76)** is the author of several books: *Baker's Dozen*, *A Light in the Darkness: Insights of a Southern Christian Gentleman*, *Evangels for Life*, and *Southern Fried Hope: Blind Ambition in the Modern South*. He recently completed his fifth book, *Papa's Britches, a grandfather teaches his eight year old granddaughter about Money, Saving and Budgets*.

## Nineteen **80s**

**Curtis Hudson ('84)** was named Teacher of the Year at Socastee High School and the 3A State Baseball Coach of the Year for 2014.

**Ondra Hanna ('86)** joined Williamsburg Academy as an Art Teacher in August 2014.

**Elizabeth Morris ('88, '96)** was named Timrod Elementary's 2014 Teacher of the Year. Timrod is in Florence School District 1.

**Philip Fulmer ('89)** was promoted to Full Professor at Francis Marion University in August 2014.

**Michael Rogers ('89)** joined Trinity-Byrnes High School as Head Baseball Coach in July 2014.

**Sharon L. Rogers ('89)** passed away in December after a lengthy battle with Cancer. A Mullins native, Rogers was the long-time guidance counselor at Northside Middle School in Cayce, S.C. The Sharon L. Rogers Scholarship Fund has been created at Northside in her honor.

## Nineteen **90s**

**Renee Woodberry ('91)** became the Job Placement Coordinator of Student Support Services at Florence-Darlington Technical College in September 2014.

**Kelley Hyman ('93)** was featured in the September 2014 issue of *She Magazine*.

**Jonathan Burnette ('96)** was inducted into the Florence County Sports Hall of Fame. Burnette's induction recognized both his performance as a student golfer, at The Byrnes School and at FMU, and as golf coach at FMU where he directed the Patriots to the 2003 Division II national championship

**Deidre Harley ('96)** was named McLaurin Elementary's 2014 Teacher of the Year. McLaurin is in Florence School District 1.

**Bellamy Jackson ('96)** released a gospel album entitled *Do You Know the Brass Breaker, Iron Cutter, and Yoke Destroyer* in August 2014.

**Jamie Blakeney ('97)** has joined Erica Homes of Lancaster, S.C. as an associate.

**Crystal Hill-Chapman ('97, '00)** joined the McLeod Health Center as the Associate Chair of the Psychology Department in June 2014. Received board certification in clinical psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychologists in November. Hill-Chapman remains a member of FMU's Psychology faculty.

**Brandi Spencer ('97)** was named Marion County School District's 2013-14 Teacher of the Year.

**Cynthia Grier ('99) & Patrick Grimsley ('99)** were married in June of 2013.

## Two **Thousands**

**Susan Dixon ('00)** was named West Florence High's 2014 Teacher of the Year. West Florence is in Florence School District 1.

**Kevin Gause ('00)** appeared in the September 2014 issue of *She Magazine*.

**Tara Newton ('00)** was named principal at Briggs Elementary in Florence. Briggs is in Florence School District 1.

**William Turner ('00)** joined Smith & Nephew as a Senior Territory Manager in March 2014.

**Herman Funderburk ('01)** was promoted to General Manager of the Walmart Distribution Center in Columbus, Ohio in September 2014.

**Jessica Crowson ('02)** was named Lester Elementary's 2014 Teacher of the Year, and the distinguished Teacher by the Pee Dee Reading Council for her contributions to first grade reading. Lester is in Florence School District 1.

**Matthew Pearce ('02, '07)** was named the Alfred E. Rush Academy's 2014 Teacher of the Year. Rush is in Florence School District 1.

**Patrice Sebastian ('02)** was promoted to Director in the Forensics and Valuation Services Group of WebsterRogers in 2014.

**Richard Warrin ('02, '05)**, an executive at Carolinas Hospital System, was named to The Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for the year 2014-2015.

**Aubrey Phillips ('03)** received her Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of South Carolina in 2014.





**Leiter**

**Candice Leiter ('04)** opened a princess party business, "Glass Slippers Solutions" in August 2014.

**Joannie Little ('04)** was named Delmae Elementary's 2014 Teacher of the Year. Delmae is in Florence School District 1.

**Betsy Bouknight Pierce ('05)** was inducted into the Batesburg-Leesville Athletic Hall of Fame in Fall of 2014.

**Darlene Cantey ('06)** was featured in the September 2014 issue of *She* Magazine.

**Richard Mention ('06) & Carmella Chestnut ('07)** were married in April 2014.

**Anna Poston Todd ('06, '08)** was named the overall female winner of the 2014 Pee Dee Grand Prix of Running. The award recognizes the top performance in local distance running over the course of a series of events during 2014.

**Heather Ward ('06)** was named Southside Middle School's 2014 Teacher of the Year. Southside is in Florence School District 1.

**Angie Bessenger ('07)** was awarded FMU's new Marvin Lynch Humanitarian Award in July 2014.

**Carmella Chestnut ('07) & Richard Mention ('06)** were married in April 2014.

**Lindsey Herring ('07)** received a Master of Arts in Elementary Reading from Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, FL in 2014.

**Ashley Jacobs ('07)** joined NC



**Floyd - Stewart**

State University as Executive Assistant to the Chancellor.

**Callie Norris ('07) & James Miller** were married in July 2014.

**Quavis Stokes ('07) & Shakeyia Spears ('09)** were married in September 2014.

**Lindsey Bibler ('08)** was named South Florence High School's 2014 Teacher of the Year. South Florence is in Florence School District 1. Bibler teaches honors level mathematics at SFHS.

**Dustin Floyd ('08) & Erin Taylor Stewart** were married in October 2014.

**Carla McCall ('08)** accepted the position of Director of Branch Operations at McCall Supply in Johnsonville, SC in 2013.

**Justin Greene ('08)** won the 2014 the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball's 2014 batting title while playing for the York (Pa.) Revolution. Greene .358. He also led the Revolution in runs scored (81) and stolen bases (31).

**Pierre Brown ('09)** was named head coach of the JV boys basketball team at Timmonsville High School.

**Shabrina Fulmore ('09)** was named Wallace-Gregg Elementary's Teacher of the Year. Wallace-Gregg is in Florence School District 1.

**Bobbie Grooms ('09)** took a job as Library Director of Richmond County in December 2013.

**Laura Langston ('09, '11) & Kyle Floyd** were married in August



**Ray-Suggs**

2014.

**Christopher Ray ('09) & Lauren Suggs** were married in June 2014.

**John Sweeney ('09)** is a field representative in U.S. Representative Tom Rice's Florence office.

**Two Thousand 10s**  
**Irby Haynes ('10) & Adam DuBose** were married in June 2014.

**Crayton Jones ('10)** joined East Carolina University as their Assistant Women's Basketball Coach in July 2014.

**Kendall Scott ('10)** was named 2014 Teacher of the Year for



**Baxley-Lynch**

Florence District One's Savannah Grove Elementary School.

**Don Baxley ('10) & Carlie Lynch** were married in August 2014.

**Anthony Gloster ('11)** joined McCall Farms as their director of marketing in July 2014.

**Brianna Miller ('11)** received a Master of Business Administration from FMU in December 2014.

**Addie Moody ('11) & Thomas Flowers** were married in May 2014.

**Logan Trively ('11)** joined *The Greenville News* as a client solutions strategist in February.



**Luke Monroe Hester**



**Kesler Adair Stanton**



**Emaleigh Grace Turner**

## Birth of a Patriot

*The FMU family grows on a regular basis.  
Here's a look at some recent additions:*

**Nicole Vanadia-Davis ('08) & Wes ('10) Davis** welcomed their daughter, Sage Addison, on September 4, 2014.

**Ricky & Jennifer ('12) Hester** welcomed their son, Luke Monroe, on November 10, 2014.

**Ryan ('06) & Abbey Plexico** welcomed a daughter, Ada Marie, in November 2013.

**Lauren Benton Stanton ('06, '13) & Cody Stanton** welcomed their daughter, Kesler Adair, on October 2, 2014.

**Melanie & William Turner ('00)** welcomed their daughter, Emaleigh Grace, on September 15, 2014. Emaleigh is 20 months old and was adopted from China.



**Hekman**

**Katherine Barnette ('12)** received her USA National, NHSF, and SCYSA coaching certifications. She was named head coach of the FSA U8 All-Star team and the FSA U6 team.

**Staci Conner ('12)** received her M.A. in English from the University of Tennessee in 2014.

**Lavon Davis ('12)** joined the Virginia Tech staff as Residential Learning Coordinator in July 2014.

**Amber Hekman ('12)** was named Lucy T. Davis Elementary School's 2014 Teacher of the Year. Lucy T. Davis is in Florence School District 1. Hekman also received the FMU School of Education's Outstanding New Alumni for 2013-2014.

**Shauna Lair ('12)** joined Trinity Healthcare Staffing Group as their marketing coordinator in November 2014.

**Staci Poston ('12) & Joseph Conner ('12)** were married in December 2013.

**Hunter Thomas ('12)** joined the Florence Darlington Technical College's public relations/marketing team in January 2014.

**Ryan Woloszyn ('12) & Samantha Smith ('12)** were married in June 2013.

**Tyrone Atkinson ('13)** was named 2014 Teacher of the Year for Florence Districts One's Career Center.

**Tari Federer ('13)** was the guest speaker at the Camden



**Garnes**

ART's September meeting held at Kershaw County Fine Arts Center.

**Katrina Garnes ('13)** joined Central United Methodist Church as Director of Communication. She also received the Young Entrepreneur Award at the 2014 *SHE* magazine Extraordinary Women event. She is the founder of Cold Storm Productions, a video production company, and the host of "What's Going On!," a webshow series.

**Evrik Gary ('13)** signed a professional contract to play for US Hiefenech Heffingen Basketball team in August 2014. Through nine games with Heffingen, Gary was third in his league in scoring at an average of 28.4 points per game.

**Marissa McDougal ('13)** joined Kinetic Media Productions. Kinetic is owned by **Brad Jordan ('99)**.

**Casey Gebhardt ('14)** joined the Lat Purser & Associates Company in Charlotte, NC as an Investment/Acquisitions Analyst in August 2014.

**Josh Knight ('14) & Kimi Simon ('14)** were married in June 2014. Josh was accepted into the South Carolina College of Pharmacy. They were featured in the February 2015 issue of *SHE* magazine.

**Joshua Lloyd ('14)** has joined the news staff of the *Florence Morning News* as a reporter.

**Jamison Mady ('14)** was named an assistant at the



**Oliver-Brookens**

Jones-Carter Gallery Goya Show in Lake City, SC.

**Lillian Miller ('14)** joined *Mount Pleasant Magazine* as an Editorial Assistant and Writer.

**Blake Oliver ('14) & Christopher Brookens** were married in May 2014.

**Kimi Simon ('14) & Josh Knight ('14)** were married in June 2014. She was accepted into the South Carolina College of Pharmacy.

## Friends & Faculty

**Frank Avent**, Honorary Doctor of Humanities from FMU, retired as general manager of Pepsi Cola of Florence and Pee Dee Foodservice after 51 years with the company started by his father.



**Knight-Simon**

**Dr. Berryman Edward "Ted" Coggleshall, Jr.**, former member of the FMU Board of Trustees, passed away on Dec. 27. Dr. Coggleshall was from Darlington but lived most of his life in Cheraw.

**Richard Jack Floyd**, master craftsman and plumber in FMU's Facilities Department, passed away in December. He was a Florence County native and lived much of his life in the community around the university.

**Eloise Juanita Burtis Crow** wife of former FMU professor George Davis Crow, Jr. passed away on August 27, 2014.

**Dr. Cedric Worman**, assistant professor of Biology, passed away on July 21, 2014. Worman joined the FMU faculty in 2012.

## LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Hey Patriots!  
Please share your latest achievements and events by submitting information online to The View at [www.fmarion.edu/alumni](http://www.fmarion.edu/alumni) or send a note to [jyoung@fmarion.edu](mailto:jyoung@fmarion.edu).

By submitting, you consent for the information to be published in The View magazine.



# Honor Roll of Donors

July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

Francis Marion University is pleased to recognize the individuals, businesses, and other groups listed below who have generously supported the University through their financial contributions between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014. The following list reflects total gifts to the University made to any of the following funds: The FMU Fund, Swamp Fox Club, scholarships, the FMU Education Foundation, and gifts in kind. These donors provide the necessary resources that make it possible for FMU to continue providing excellent educational opportunities to deserving students. Donors to FMU are honored friends and we are grateful for their support. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy in this listing; if an error is discovered, please contact the Office of Development at (843) 661-1295 so we may correct our records.

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# Patriot's Pride

## WHY I SUPPORT FMU WITH SOMPONG KRAIKIT



KRAIKIT

*Dr. Sompong Kraikit is a noted nephrologist and researcher who has practiced medicine in the Florence area for more than 35 years, since settling in the United States after leaving his native Thailand. He and his wife Suwannee have also been among Francis Marion University's most generous and consistent supporters, with both their financial resources and their time. Dr. Kraikit has served as chair of FMU's Foundation, and has served on the board for the Department of Nursing. Kraikit recently sat down with Tucker Mitchell, FMU's executive director of public affairs and editor of The VIEW, to discuss his motivations for giving.*

### THE VIEW: YOU'RE WORKING ON AN INTERESTING PROJECT TO BRING TEACHERS FROM THAILAND TO FRANCIS MARION TO BE EDUCATED? WHAT'S THE THINKING BEHIND THAT?

Dr. Kraikit: "Thailand is behind some other countries in Asia, because we do not speak English as well as in some places. We're proud of not ever having been a part of some other country, so that's a part of that. Our teachers could be better. Francis Marion has a wonderful School of Education, a good reputation in that area. It just seems to make sense. ... But it's not easy. The rules for teachers in Thailand have made it more difficult than you'd think. But we're working on it. Online education might offer a solution."

### THE VIEW: HOW DID YOU FIRST BECOME INVOLVED WITH FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY?

Dr. Kraikit: McLeod made it possible for me to realize my dream, to practice what I had been trained to do in medicine and what I wanted to do. That brought me to Florence and McLeod Hospital, where I was fortunate to make some money. We always thought we should support causes and people in the land that had helped us. But one day, after I had committed to give to an organization in Charleston, I thought, 'why not give to something that is local?' One of the first places I thought about was Francis Marion, although where we began was helping foreign students in the School of Business. ... Later on, Dr. Carter came (to FMU) and there was a fundraiser for The Foundation, and somehow I wound up as chairman of the Foundation board. And then I found myself going out with Fred (Carter) to talk to many people about giving money. I found out the hard way that that is not easy. Fortunately, Fred is very good at that."

### THE VIEW: WHAT MAKES YOU FEEL GOOD ABOUT GIVING TO FRANCIS MARION?

Dr. Kraikit: The university has just had such a tremendous impact on this area. Without Francis Marion, local people would never get the education they need and deserve. There are a lot of people here who may have the brains, but they might not have the money. This is their college. It's where you get the basic college education you need to get started. ... (FMU) has also meant so much to the growth of this community, especially in the last 10 years or so. I'm never quite sure how much of that is the university and how much is Fred (Carter). It's quite a combination. It's all connected, really."

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Laura Sarvis  
Ron John Springs  
Charles & Janet Teal  
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Connie & Nancy Young

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Automatic Data Processing Inc.  
City of Florence  
Duke Energy  
Marlboro County General  
Hospital Charity Trust  
McLeod Health  
Pee Dee Electric Cooperative  
Sam Carbis Solutions Group  
Santee Cooper

### Francis Marion Society

Johnson Controls  
Santee Electric Cooperative, Inc.

### Pee Dee Society

Assurant Group  
BB&T  
Carolinas Hospital System  
CTK Pizza Inc.  
Hilliard Lyons  
Honda of South Carolina Mfg., Inc.  
Otis Elevator Company  
Pee Dee Electricom, Inc.  
Pinnacle Network Solutions  
Sexton Dental Clinic

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Car Town Kia  
Carolina Bank

Miller Communications  
Morning News  
NAPA Auto Parts  
Pee Dee Orthopaedic  
Associates, P.A.  
Roche Carolina Inc.  
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Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc.  
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All Star Sports  
ArborOne  
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Coker Business Systems, Inc.  
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First Citizens Bank  
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IRIX Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
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M2M Marketing & Promotions  
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American Trophy Company, Inc.  
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Frank Pitt Soccer Camp LLC  
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Pee Dee Education Center  
Prince Hall Grand Chapter Order  
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 Victoria S. Marshall '97  
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**ABOUT THE FOUNDATION**

The Francis Marion University Education Foundation was organized in 1974 to provide a means for soliciting and accepting substantial gifts of money or property in order to build an endowment fund that would promote the educational purpose and welfare of Francis Marion University.

Since its establishment, the Foundation has enabled the University to meet a number

of diverse needs that would be impossible to meet with state funds. Its primary focus has been to provide scholarship support for students. In addition, the Foundation has assisted faculty members by granting funds for professional development and sponsored various lecture series and cultural events.

The Francis Marion University Education Foundation is governed by an independent 35

member volunteer board of directors, with additional honorary and ex-officio directors, including the president of the university and other key administrators. Through its board and committee structure, the Foundation gives friends and alumni a personal involvement in the fundraising and asset management program.

REAR  
VIEW

Remembering FMU's Past ♦ Circa 1970

# Getting Started

Forty-five years ago, in October of 1970, Francis Marion University (then College) inaugurated its first president, Dr. Doug Smith (left). Among those on hand for the festivities was South Carolina Governor Robert E. McNair, who signed the legislation creating Francis Marion during his tenure. McNair is, of course, the namesake for FMU's McNair Science Building and the McNair Scholarship, FMU's top academic award. McNair received an honorary degree from FMU in 2005, shortly before his death.

